6
Nari Kusakawa
The Palette of 12 Secret Colors

photo by Cello

The Palette of 12 Secret Colors

Volume 6

By Nari Kusakawa

EPISODE 23

じゅうにひそく
十二秘色のパレット
The Palette of 12 Secret Colors

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Biscuit

EHHH?! HE'S GORGEOUS!!
WHOSE SPECIALTY IS IT? SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
WHY IS THE PAGE GLITTERING ...?
NEVER HEARD OF HIM. GUY'S NAME IS JEAN. HE'S 21...
UNDER THE MASK, HE'S A HANDSOME DEVIL..!!
GOOD-BYE, LITTLE BIRD!
REMEMBER WHEN YOYO LEFT THE ISLAND TO TRAIN IN MARTIAL ARTS?
I SENSED SOMEBODY ELSE USING SECRET COLORS THEN.
WELL, HE ENDED UP...
REALLY CELLO?! HOW?!
SNAP
.....
WE KNOW THIS MAN.
Right?

THE REMOTE ISLAND OF OPAL IN THE SOUTH SEAS...
HUH ...
...IS HOME TO THE BIRDS WITH THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL FEATHERS...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD DO THIS WITH THE SECRET COLORS.
WHAT ARE YOU READING, FENNE?
... AND COLOR MAGICIANS, KNOWN AS "PALETTES".
LAST YEAR'S PALETTE DIRECTORY.
OH, YEAH. WITH PROFILES ON ALL THE ACTIVE PALETTES.
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT YOU WERE STUDYING, YOU'RE KILLING TIME?
THIS IS NOTHIN' TO MAKE LIGHT OF.
DON'T YOU WANNA SEE THIS GUY'S SPECIALTY?
HE USES THE SECRET COLORS TO MAKE FLYING BUBBLE-LIKE ORBS.
COOOL...

RIPPLE...
I APPRECIATE THE RIDE AGAIN.
WELL, I HAVE TO ADMIT, WE'RE JUST AS FASCINATED BY THE MONSTER AS YOU ARE.
RIPPLE
Y'KNOW, A FACE ISN'T JUST ABOUT FEATURES.
WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT HOW YOU'VE LIVED IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT MAYBE.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SAY THAT, SAY IT WITH CONFI-DENCE.
Am I right?
WE'RE HERE TO VISIT YOU!
JEAN!
HELLO!
YOYO'S GRATEFUL, TOO!
THANK YOU FOR HELPING YOYO LAST TIME!
I DON'T KNOW. SOME-THING MOVED ...
WAS THAT HIM?

HE'S NOT A BAD GUY, THOUGH, RIGHT?
Marcelyn, remember, you've got a boyfriend...
BUT WHAT'S A PALETTE DOING ON A DESERT ISLAND MASQUER-ADING AS A MONSTER...?
GOOD IDEA! ♡
RATTLE
NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT HE CAN DO, LET'S PAY HIM A VISIT SO HE CAN SHOW US.
YEAH. I NEVER DID GET TO THANK HIM.

AFTERWARDS, I HAD A HUNCH HE'D BEEN POINTING OUT YOYO'S LOCATION TO ME.
BUT THIS CONFIRMS IT. HE WAS A PALETTE!

G...
F...
E...
COMING!
Hoh-hoh
PAD
CELLO, COME ON!
GUE...
GILBERT ...
GAS-PARD ...

1

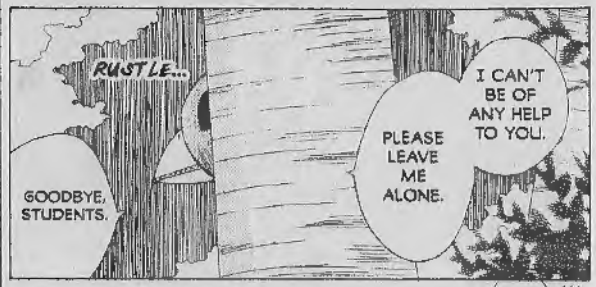
HELLO.

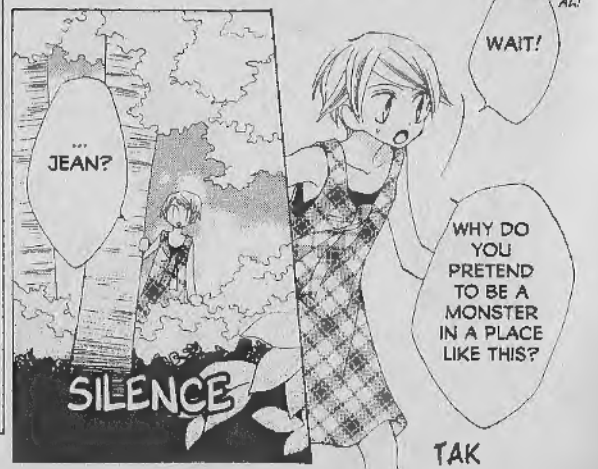
THIS IS THE FINAL VOLUME OF PALETTE. I'VE BEEN WORKING ON IT FOR ABOUT FIVE YEARS NOW AND IT'S A SERIES THAT I'M GLAD I DID BECAUSE OF ALL THE SILLINESS IT ALLOWED ME TO WRITE AND DRAW. I THINK MY "COMEDY WRITING" HAS DEVELOPED THROUGH DOING PALETTE.

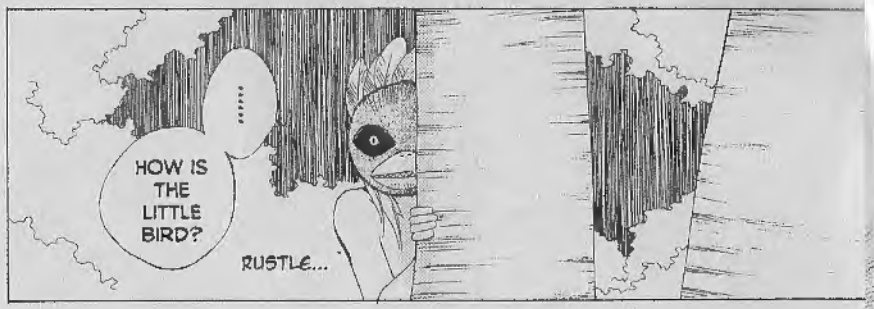
I THOUGHT MAYBE I'D USE MY 1/4 COLUMN SPACES THIS LAST TIME AROUND TO TALK ABOUT THE CHARACTERS AND INCLUDE SOME CHARACTER ART FROM MY NOTEBOOKS. I HOPE YOU ENJOY GETTING TO LOOK AT DRAWINGS BEFORE THEY REACH THE "CLEAN COPY" STAGE.

Enjoy!

SNAP
WHY WOULD YOU NEED TO SEE MY FACE?
EH...?
AND IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO GET A LOOK AT YOUR FACE...
WE'RE STUDENTS AT THE PALETTE TRAINING SCHOOL.
YOU'VE GOT AN UNUSUAL TALENT AND AS A PALETTE-IN-TRAINING, I'D LIKE TO SEE IT FOR INSPIRATION.





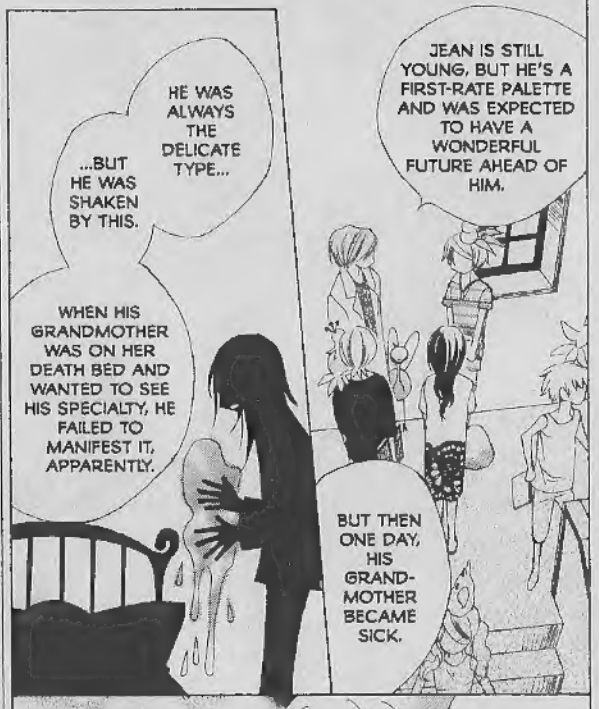


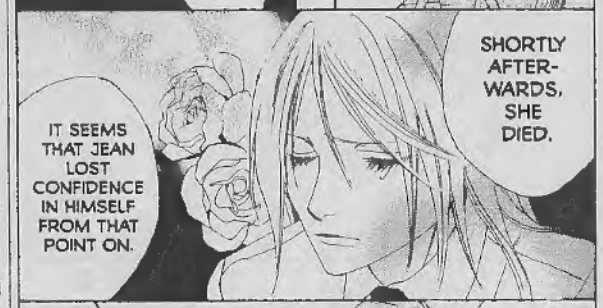
SPECIAL SKILL ...?!
SNAP
THE DIREC-TORY.
SORRY FOR COMING HERE WITHOUT ANY WARNING, BUT WE HAVE A LITTLE FAVOR TO ASK.
WILL YOU SHOW US YOUR SPECIAL SKILL?

2

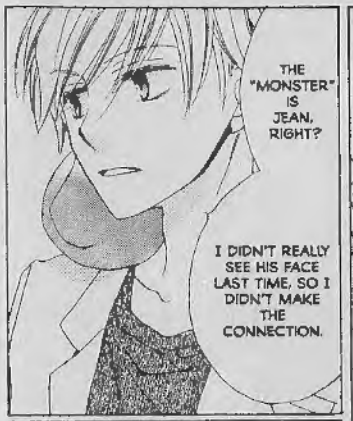
CELLO

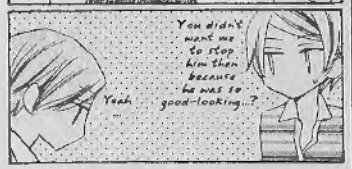
I WAS GIVEN THE HONOR OF DRAWING THE MAGAZINE COVER WHEN THE FIRST EPISODE WAS PUBLISHED, BUT WITH THE STIPULATION THAT IT BE COLORFUL, SO I MADE CELLO'S HAIR GREEN THERE. TO BE HONEST, THIS SERIES HAS NOW REACHED COMPLETION AND I STILL FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T QUITE GOTTEN A HOLD OF CELLO. EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN WITH HER FOR FIVE YEARS...!! SHE'S GOT AN ANIMAL-LIKE SIDE TO HER AND OFTEN ENGAGES IN CRAZY BEHAVIOR, AND YET SHE'S ALSO QUIET. ABOUT THE ONLY THING THAT I CAN SAY FOR SURE REGARDING CELLO IS THAT SHE IS AND ALWAYS SHALL BE FLAT-CHESTED.


JEAN IS STILL YOUNG, BUT HE'S A FIRST-RATE PALETTE AND WAS EXPECTED TO HAVE A WONDERFUL FUTURE AHEAD OF HIM.
HE WAS ALWAYS THE DELICATE TYPE...
...BUT HE WAS SHAKEN BY THIS.
WHEN HIS GRANDMOTHER WAS ON HER DEATH BED AND WANTED TO SEE HIS SPECIALTY, HE FAILED TO MANIFEST IT, APPARENTLY.
BUT THEN ONE DAY, HIS GRANDMOTHER BECAME SICK.



HE RETURNED HIS PALETTE'S LICENSE TO THE CITY AND DISAPPEARED.
THIS WAS THREE MONTHS AGO.
SO HE WENT FROM PALETTE TO MONSTER.





Exit, stage left, with feathers on my back.
But he seems unfazed!!
THAT'S WHAT I WAS THINKING ...
I WONDER HOW HE FEELS NOW...

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.
ACCORDING TO YOYO, HE WEARS THAT MASK IN ORDER TO MAKE HIMSELF "STRONGER".

EVEN IF HE'S LOST SELF-CONFIDENCE, HE CAN STILL USE THE SECRET COLORS, RIGHT?
MAYBE HE'S JUST TOO TRAUMATIZED TO PERFORM HIS SPECIALTY.

...BUT THAT MASK HE'S WEARING IS OBVIOUSLY MODELED ON THIS BIRD.
HIS PARTNER.
That looks like a bird monster itself...
I'M THINKING HE REALLY WANTS TO GO BACK TO BEING A PALETTE.
RIDDLE
DR. GUELL THINKS WE SHOULD LEAVE HIM ALONE...

I CAN IMAGINE HOW HARD IT IS ON HIM. HAVING A FAMILY MEMBER DIE AND NOT BEING ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
WELL, IF HE ASKED YOU TO LEAVE HIM ALONE, I ADVISE YOU TO RESPECT HIS REQUEST.

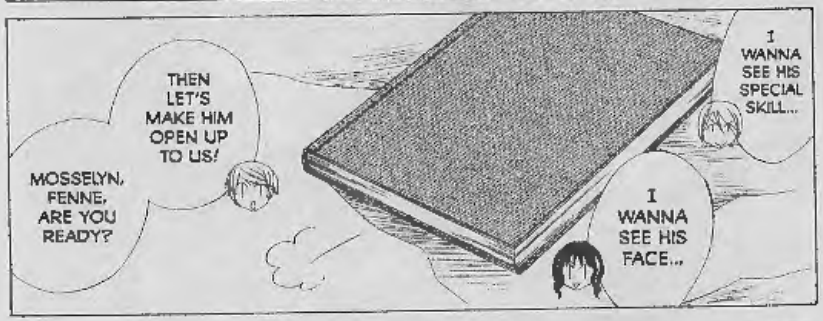
DO YOU LIKE HIM, YOYO?
WHAT A WASTE, TO COVER UP A FACE LIKE THAT WITH A MASK.
IN OTHER WORDS, HE'S GOT A WOUNDED HEART.

DUNG...
MM.
DR. GUELL, THANKS FOR THE INFO.
Ah!
CLASS IS STARTING!
DING DONG
DR. GUELL, TOO...
DING

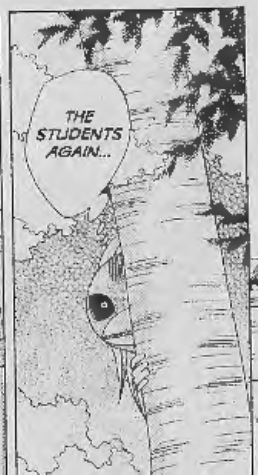
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD ON HIM...
... TO LOSE HIS FAMILY.
DONG
Nope!
NO PSYCHIC POWERS TODAY, DOCTOR!
ARE YOU THINKING I SHOULD'VE MADE MY APPEARANCE WEARING FEATHERS LIKE JEAN?

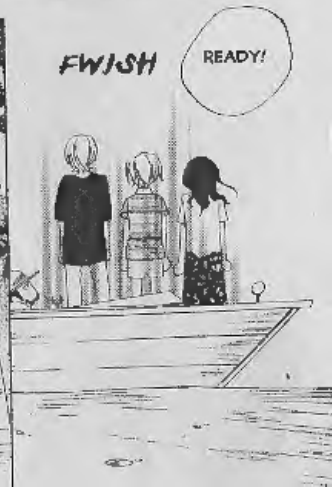
...FELLOW MASK-WEARERS?!
DUN DUN!
FOO...
I REALLY LIKE YOUR GUYS' MASKS.
...YOURS TOO, JEAN.
YOYO LIKED ...
So he didn't mean to just shake hands...
SPIN SPIN
Ahaha! Yay!
What is this, a masked ball...?
THE LITTLE BIRD? I'M HAPPY TO HEAR THAT.

STARE...
YEP.
I THINK WE'VE GOT HIS ATTENTION, ANYWAY...
WELL ...


MOSSELYN, FENNE, ARE YOU READY?
THEN LET'S MAKE HIM OPEN UP TO US!
I WANNA SEE HIS FACE...
I WANNA SEE HIS SPECIAL SKILL...

GASP
NO! THOSE ARE...


THE STUDENTS AGAIN...


FWISH
READY!

I THINK YOUR GRANDMOTHER WOULD BE HAPPIER IF YOU DID GET BACK TO YOUR NORMAL LIFE.
FOK
THANK YOU. BUT I JUST DON'T HAVE THE CONFIDENCE ANYMORE.
I'M SORRY.
I'M TOO WEAK.
WHISPER
MAKING THESE MASKS WAS THE RIGHT MOVE FOR US.
HIS SCARS RUN DEEP...
WHISPER
BUT WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? SHOULD WE JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE AFTER ALL...?
BUT THE HAND HE WAS HOLDING BEFORE...
... PLEASE.
HEY, IF YOU'D LIKE, I COULD GIVE YOU A TOUR OF THE ISLAND?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. I'M NOT WORTH IT. I COULDN'T EVEN OFFER AN OLD WOMAN COMFORT IN HER LAST MOMENTS.
WE HEARD ABOUT YOUR GRAND-MOTHER.
PLEASE CHEER UP.
YOU THREE MUST BE LOOKING FOR STRENGTH TOO, HUH?
IF I'D KNOWN THAT BEFORE, I WOULDN'T HAVE SENT YOU AWAY. SORRY.
EH?
RETURN TO TOWN...
...AND GET YOUR PALETTE'S LICENSE BACK.
FWISH!
YOU'RE DEPRESSED BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN ALONE ON THIS ISLAND FOR THREE MONTHS. ANYONE WOULD BE!
AH...
I'M CRYING ...
GLITTER
SHAKE
GO BACK WITH US.
ANYWAY, I CAN'T GO BACK. EVERY TIME I USE THE SECRET COLORS, I THINK OF MY GRANDMA.
I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE ALREADY PLENTY STRONG-WILLED...
AND THAT JUST MAKES ME...

THWAK!
YOU CAN HAVE IT BACK
HERE, PRACTICE IN THE BOAT
HOLD ON TIGHT TO THAT ROPE WITH BOTH HANDS
THIS?
TH S IS MY ROOST
OH MY GOSH! CELLO'S AFRAID OF HEIGHTS!
SSSSSS
A PULLEY MAKES IT A BREEZE TO GET UP HERE!
FWOOSH
AIEEEE!
EH?
JEAN'S RESIDENCE
T'S MORE DYNAMIC THAN I IMAGINED

THOSE STUDENTS FROM YOUR SCHOOL WENT OUT TO SEE HIM AGAIN
F SHERMAN WHO'S AFRAID OF A HANDSOME YOUNG MAN
HELLO
IS STILL WARM.
OK
THE SLEEPY-FACED DOCTOR!
I TOLD THEM TO LET HIM BE
I SEEM TO REC.LL YOU BE NG PLENTY ON GUARD THAT LAST TIME
Hey br ng out the boat
NO THAT S NOT WHY I SAID TO "LE" HIM BE"
ANYWAY CELLO AND I WE'RE JUST
YOU BETTER GET AFTER HER WHILE THERE S STILL T ME
WEL, IF YOU KEEP STANDIN' AROUND LIKE A DIM BL B DOC THAT GIRL YOU FANCY IS GONNA BE TAKEN AWAY FROM YOU.
AND SAY "I DON'T WANT YOU LOOK'N AT NO OTHER MEN!"
THWAK!
YOU PUT OUT YOUR ARM LIKE THIS, DOC
IN LOVE RIGHT?
FLAP

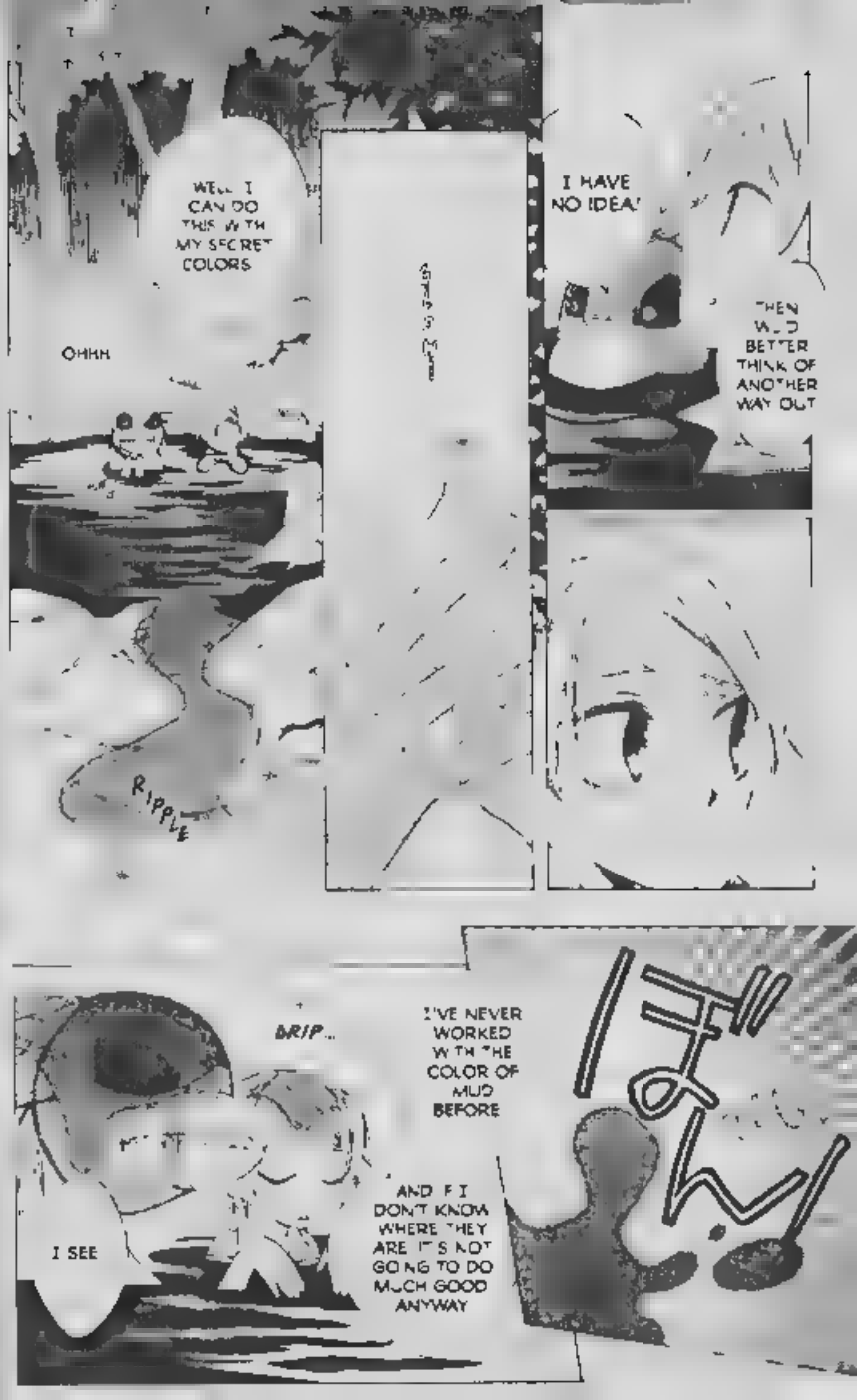
BUDA
13"
GASP
I WAS SO SURPRISED TO SEE YOU FALL IN HERE THAT I SLIPPED OFF MY ROPE.
SORRY THIS IS MY FAULT ARE YOU HURT?
KOFF
NO. BUT I'D SURE LIKE TO GET OUT OF THIS MUD.
WAS A LUCKY BREAK OR NOT
I'M NOT SURE IF FALLING INTO DEEP MUD
KOFF KOFF
BUDA
JEAN?
PLOOSH

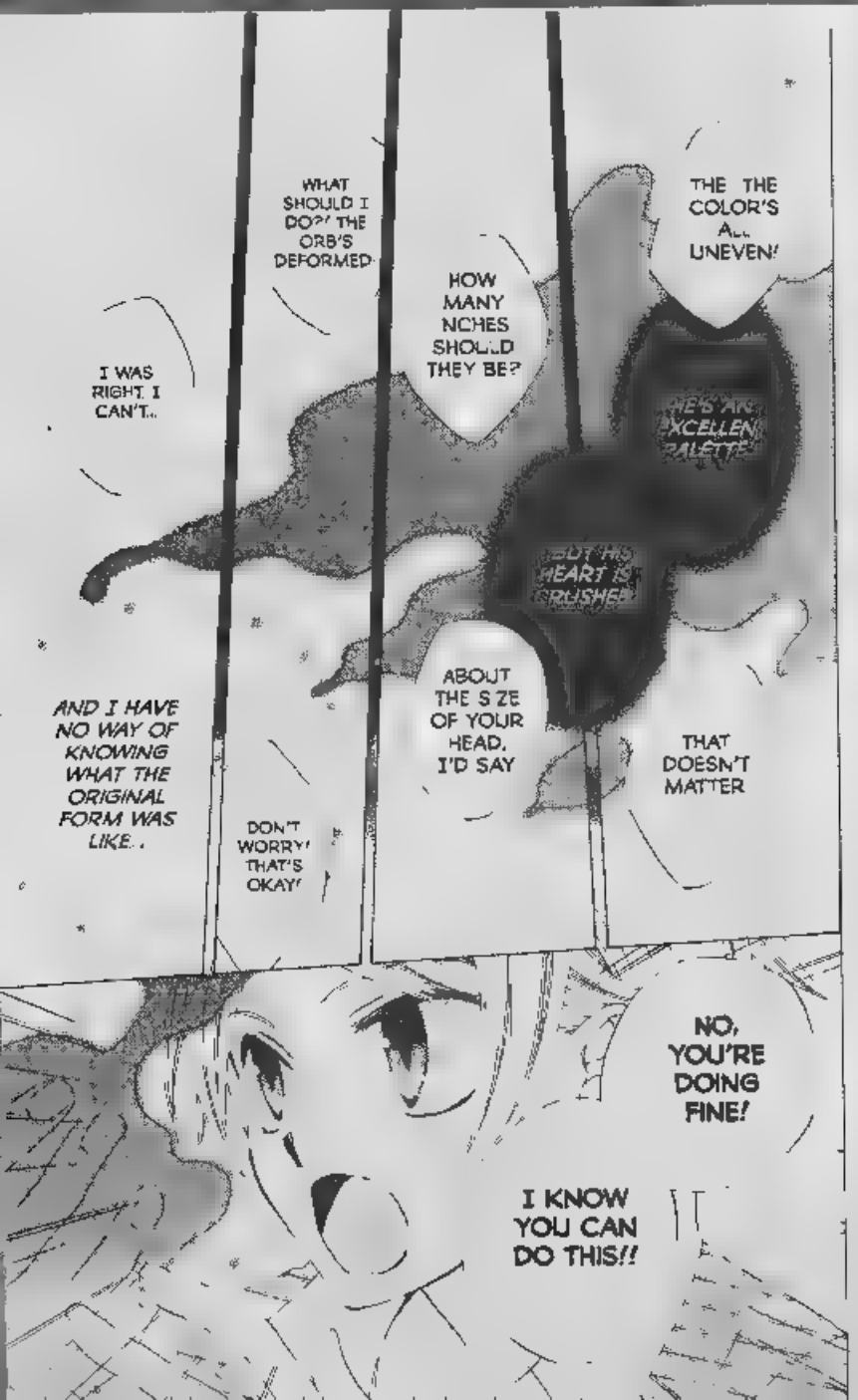
AH! NO, NOT THAT ROPE!!
THAT'S
FWISH
...FOR SWINGING AROUND THE TOP BRANCHES!!
EEEYAAAA
CELLO!!
SWISH
LET'S FOLLOW ALONG FROM THE GROUND
I'LL GO AFTER HER WITH MY SPARE ROPE.
THAP

PADDLE PADDLE
HELP, MOSSEYN
WE'RE SLOWLY DROWNING!!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER FALLEN'
OH
YOU'VE BEEN UNDER FOR THREE MONTHS AND NOW ONLY YOU NOTICE?!
RUSTLE
RIDDLE
WE RAN TO THE BEACH?
I THINK WE MADE A WRONG TURN SOME WHERE
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, BEST THING TO DO IS MAKE MARKS AS YOU GO
WE SEEM TO HAVE GONE OFF TRACK
HOLD ON, I THINK I GOT SOMETHING YOU CAN USE
SILENT

COULD THIS BE A BOTTOM-LESS PIT...?!
SOOP
SOOP
UM, JEAN
I KNOW I'M GETTING A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS, TOO.
PADDLE PADDLE
PADDLE PADDLE
PADDLE PADDLE PADDLE
STRANGE
WE'RE NOT MAKING ANY PROGRESS

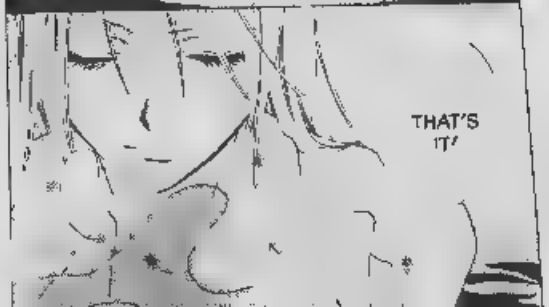
GLITTER
WELL..
IN THAT CASE
EH..?
SHOULD I USE MY SPECIALTY BUBBLE LIKE PROJECTIONS
TO LET THEM KNOW WHERE WE ARE..?
WHAT CAN I DO? IT'S LIKE HIS HEART IS MADE OF GLASS AND IT'S UNDER PRESSURE!!
I'M SORRY YOU HAVE TO SPEND YOUR LAST MINUTES ON EARTH WITH ME!
JUST DO YOUR BEST!
DON'T TALK ABOUT "LAST MINUTES"!! FIGHT
GROAN
I'M SURE YOU'RE HEARTSICK OVER YOUR GRANDMOTHER
BUT IF YOU DON'T AT LEAST MAKE AN EFFORT YOU REALLY WON'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I CAN'T DO IT!!
WAAA

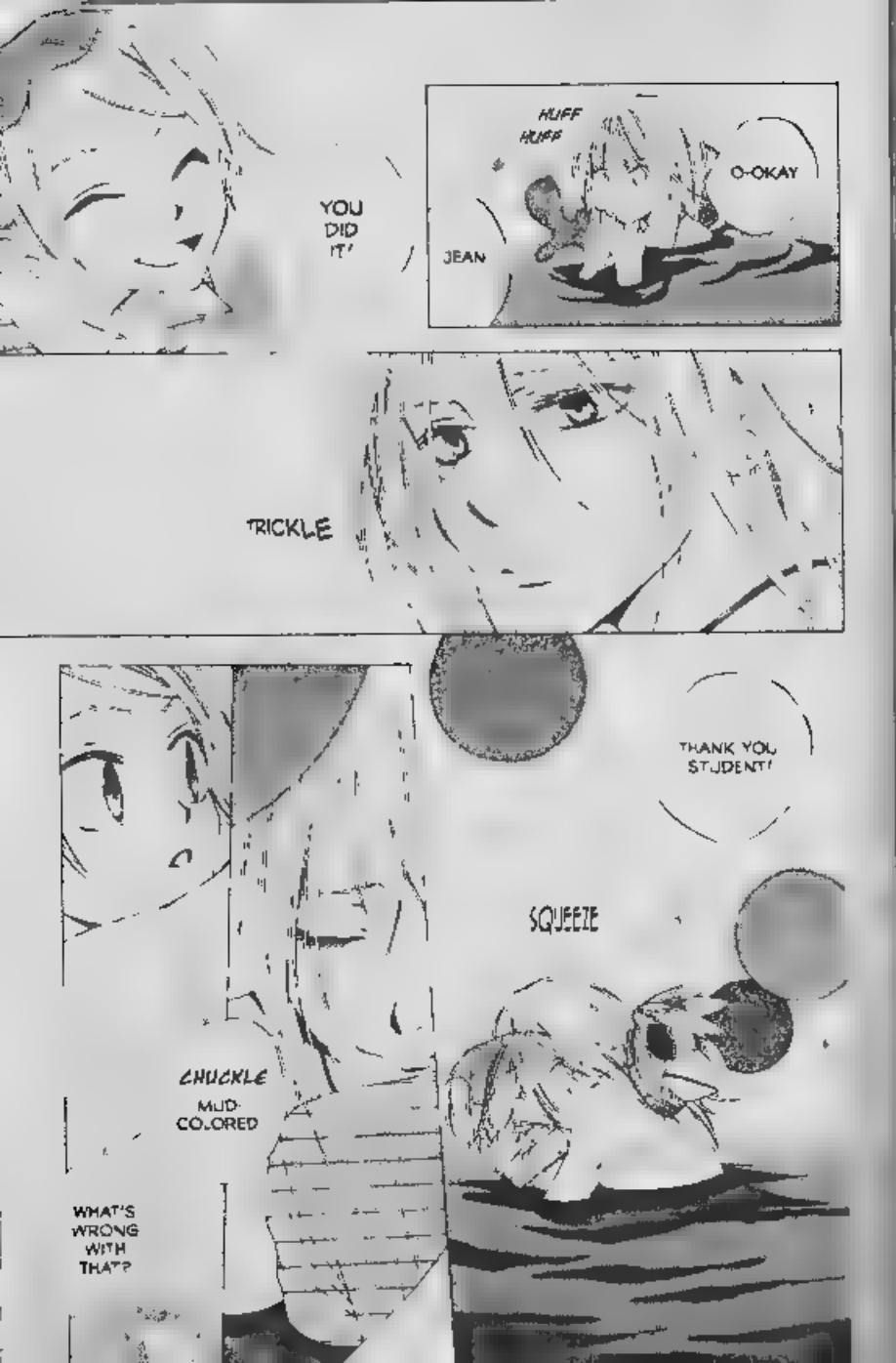

WELL I CAN DO THIS WITH MY SECRET COLORS
OHHH
RIPPLE
I HAVE NO IDEA!
THEN WE'D BETTER THINK OF ANOTHER WAY OUT
DRIP..
I'VE NEVER WORKED WITH THE COLOR OF MUD BEFORE
I SEE
AND IF I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE IT'S NOT GOING TO DO MUCH GOOD ANYWAY
EW


I WAS RIGHT. I CAN'T..
WHAT SHOULD I DO?! THE ORB'S DEFORMED
HOW MANY INCHES SHOULD THEY BE?
THE THE COLOR'S ALL UNEVEN!
HE'S AN EXCELLENT PALETTE
BUT HIS HEART IS CRUSHED
AND I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHAT THE ORIGINAL FORM WAS LIKE..
DON'T WORRY! THAT'S OKAY!
ABOUT THE SIZE OF YOUR HEAD, I'D SAY
THAT DOESN'T MATTER
NO, YOU'RE DOING FINE!
I KNOW YOU CAN DO THIS!!

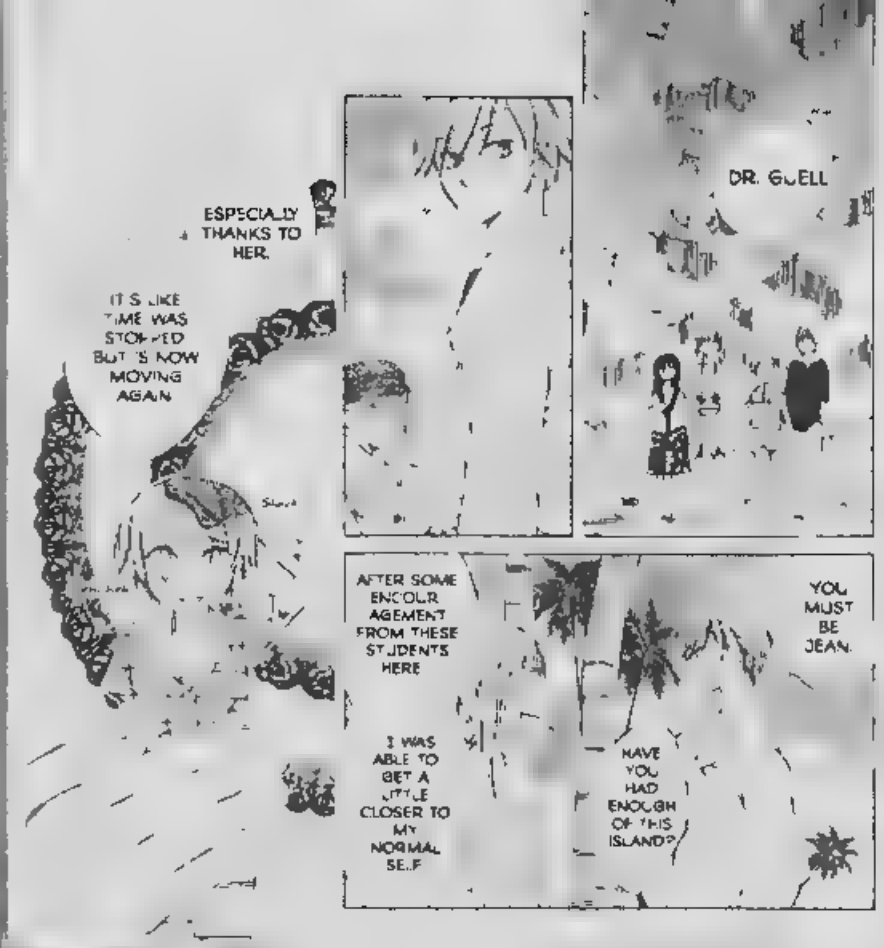
YOU'RE RIGHT..

NEVER THOUGHT A REPEATER LIKE ME




YOU DID IT!
HUFF HUFF
O-OKAY
JEAN
TRICKLE
THANK YOU STUDENT!
SQUEEZE
CHUCKLE
MUD-COLORED
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?

FOOP
SEE?!
MAKE A BUNCH OF 'EM!


ESPECIALLY THANKS TO HER.
IT'S LIKE TIME WAS STOPPED BUT IS NOW MOVING AGAIN
DR. GUELL
AFTER SOME ENCOUR AGEMENT FROM THESE STUDENTS HERE
I WAS ABLE TO GET A LITTLE CLOSER TO MY NORMAL SELF
HAVE YOU HAD ENOUGH OF THIS ISLAND?
YOU MUST BE JEAN.

WELL GOOD FOR YOU.
THANKS
STOPPED TIME, EH.. ?

WELL. SINCE YOU PUSHED ME THIS FAR I WANT TO AT LEAST PAY YOU BACK BY SHOWING YOU SOMETHING PRETTY
OH.
THEY'RE SIMPLE AND SMALL
EVEN IF IT IS BROKEN IN PIECES. IT STILL EXISTS.
I COULDN'T ANSWER GOSTI WHEN SHE ASKED ME WHY I WANTED TO BECOME A PALETTE

BUT I THINK A HINT MAY BE INSIDE THOSE BUBBLES

EPISODE 23 THE END

十秋色パラドックス
EPISODE 24

...AND COLOR MAGICIANS, KNOWN AS "PALETTES".
THE REMOTE ISLAND OF OPAL IN THE SOUTH SEAS...
...IS HOME TO THE BIRDS WITH THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL FEATHERS...
FREEZE
FLEX
SQUEEZE

TAK
WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME .
...I OPENED THIS BOX?

I'VE GOTTA SHOOT FOR PERFECTION!
THERE ARE THREE DAYS OF WRITTEN TESTS BEFORE THE PRACTICAL EXAMS
WE WILL!
DON'T FORGET YOUR FINAL EXAMS BEGIN NEXT WEEK
SO EVERYONE BUCKLE DOWN AND DO YOUR BEST
THAT'S EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING TO BE COVERED ON THE TEST
THAT'S ALL
TA
I KNOW I KNOW YOYO I WON'T LET MYSELF GET CARELESS
HA!
LAST YEAR I FLOPPED DOING THE PRACTICAL BUT THE WRITTEN PORTIONS WERE NO PROBLEM
WOW!!
AHHH IT'S BEEN TOO LONG SINCE I'VE HAD JUICE FROM THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA DELICIOUS
SIP
JEAN?!
THIS YEAR FOR SURE, I'M GOING ON TO SECOND YEAR!
FLASH
FLASH
NO MORE REPEATING!
AND SO THE CELLO YOYO TEAM FINALS NEARS
THEIR FRESHMAN 12 COLORS REVENGE MATCH.
ALL RIGHT I AM GONNA HEAD BACK TO THE DORM TO STUDY!
STUDENT
AND LITTLE BIRD
FWISH
GOT A TRIM

STUDENT
I THOUGHT SO.
AN OVERSEAS EXPEDITION IT WOULD BE WITH GOSTI AND MAGE.
I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM THEM. AND JEAN'S HERE BECAUSE HE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE
THERE'S AN OPENING FOR A POST OUTSIDE OF OPAL NEXT YEAR.
I'M PLANNING ON APPLYING
S IT ?
I'M SURE A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE APPLYING FOR IUS. A FEW POSITIONS I DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE TO BEGIN WITH
BUT I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST AND I WANT YOU TO DO THE SAME WITH THAT TEST!
AND EVEN NOW I CRY WHENEVER I THINK OF MY GRANDMA
SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE
I WILL!
IT'S A DEAL
FLASH
WHOAAAA
POK
MASK ON OR OFF, YOU STAND OUT
I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE T OFF YET
AND YOU'VE UH DECIDED TO KEEP YOUR MASK ON EVEN AFTER COMING BACK?
BUT I WANNA CHANGE
EH?
SO I'M TH NKING ABOUT LEAVING OPAL
RIPPLE RIPPLE
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING JEAN
LET'S TALK IN THE INFIRMARY
YOU'RE HERE TO MEET DR. GUE

3

YOYO

YOYO'S CREATION WAS INSPIRED BY GROMIT OF THE CLAYMATED WALLACE AND GROMIT WHO NEVER SPEAKS BUT COMMUNICATES EXPRESSIONS JUST THROUGH THE USE OF HIS EYEBROWS ALTHOUGH IN THE LAST COUPLE OF VOLUMES I'VE BEEN CHEATING BY LETTING YOYO SPEAK A LITTLE GOING BY THE NUMBER OF CLAY AND FELT CREATED FIGURES OF YOYO YOU READERS HAVE MADE AND SENT TO ME THIS BIRD IS FAR AND AWAY THE MOST POPULAR CHARACTER I'VE COME UP WITH SO FAR MAYBE HE'S THE TYPE THAT ALWAYS TRIES TO CHALLENGE HIMSELF

HE'D KICK THE OLD MAN OUT IF HE COULD.

THE JOB INTERVIEW GOES WELL FOR YOU.

I PRAY FOR YOU TO BE ABLE TO LEAVE OPAL

I

I DIDN'T THINK THE DOCTOR WAS THE TYPE TO RUB HEADS

WOW.

IT FEELS LIKE ALL OF MY CELLS HAVE SPRUNG UP

AND POWER IS CIRCULATING THROUGH MY WHOLE BODY

RUB RUB

SURE SHE SAVED ME.

DO YOU LIKE CELLO?

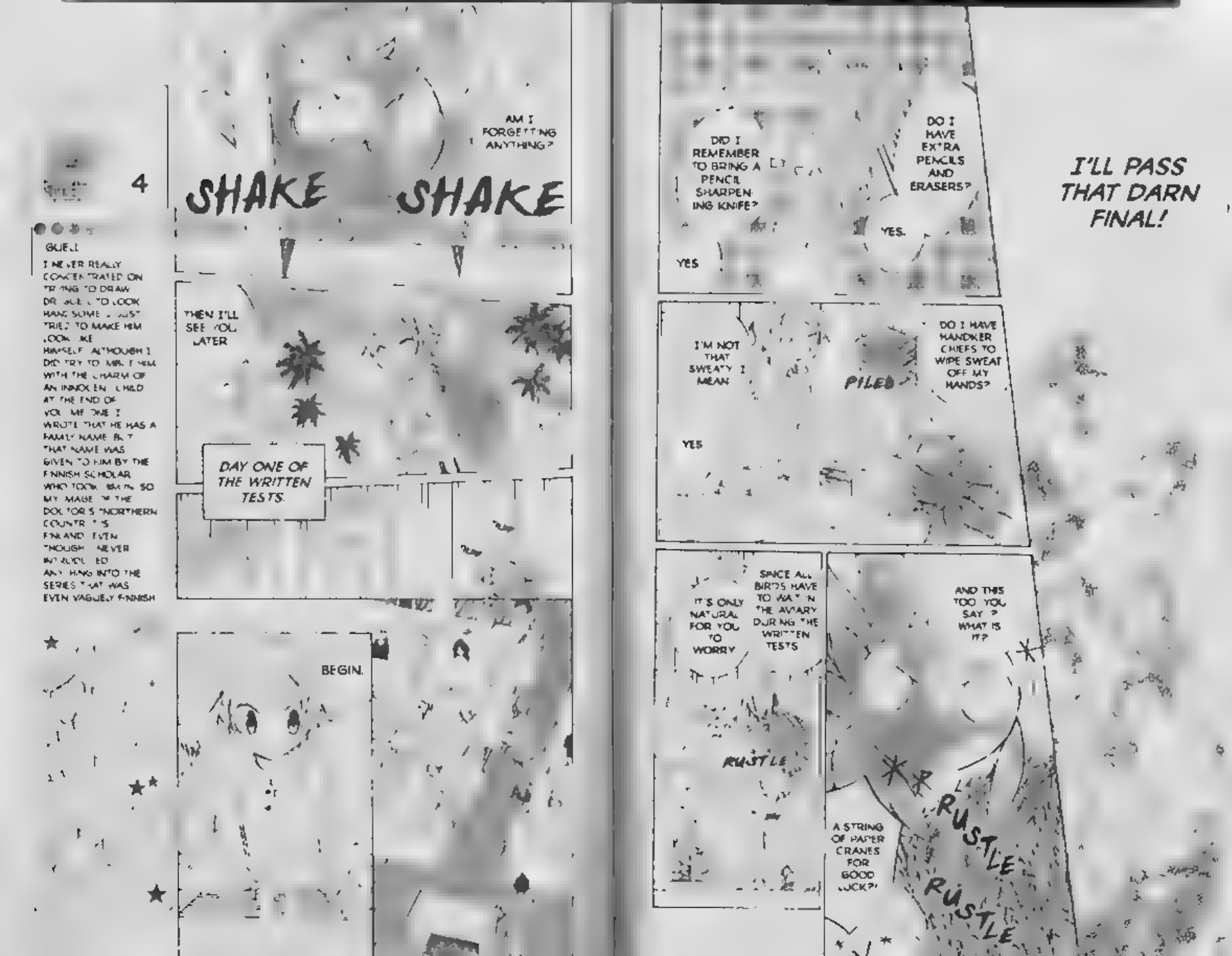
GLITTER

I FEEL AN AFFINITY FOR HER TOO.

I HOPE

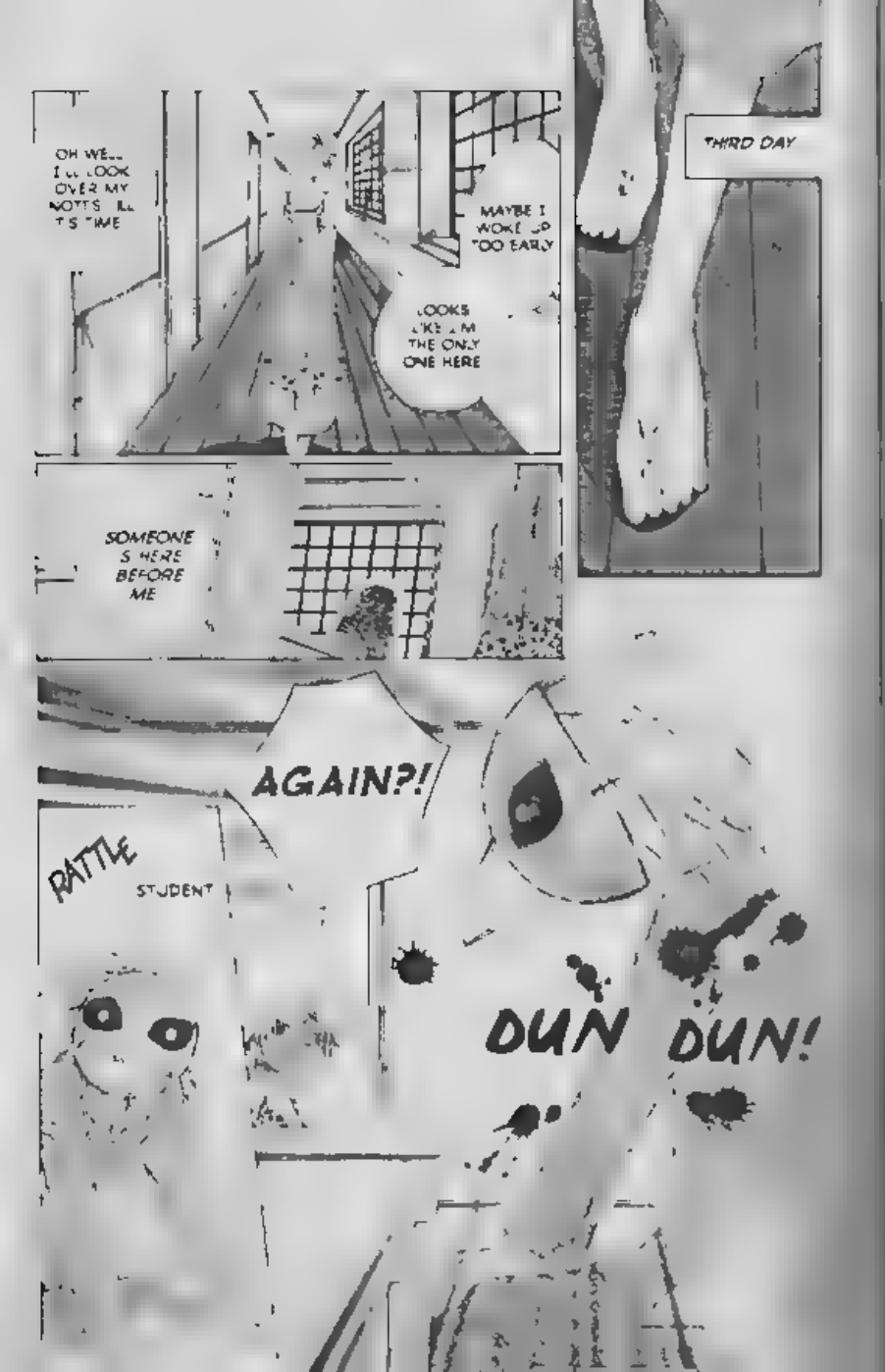
WELL, SHALL WE GO JEAN?

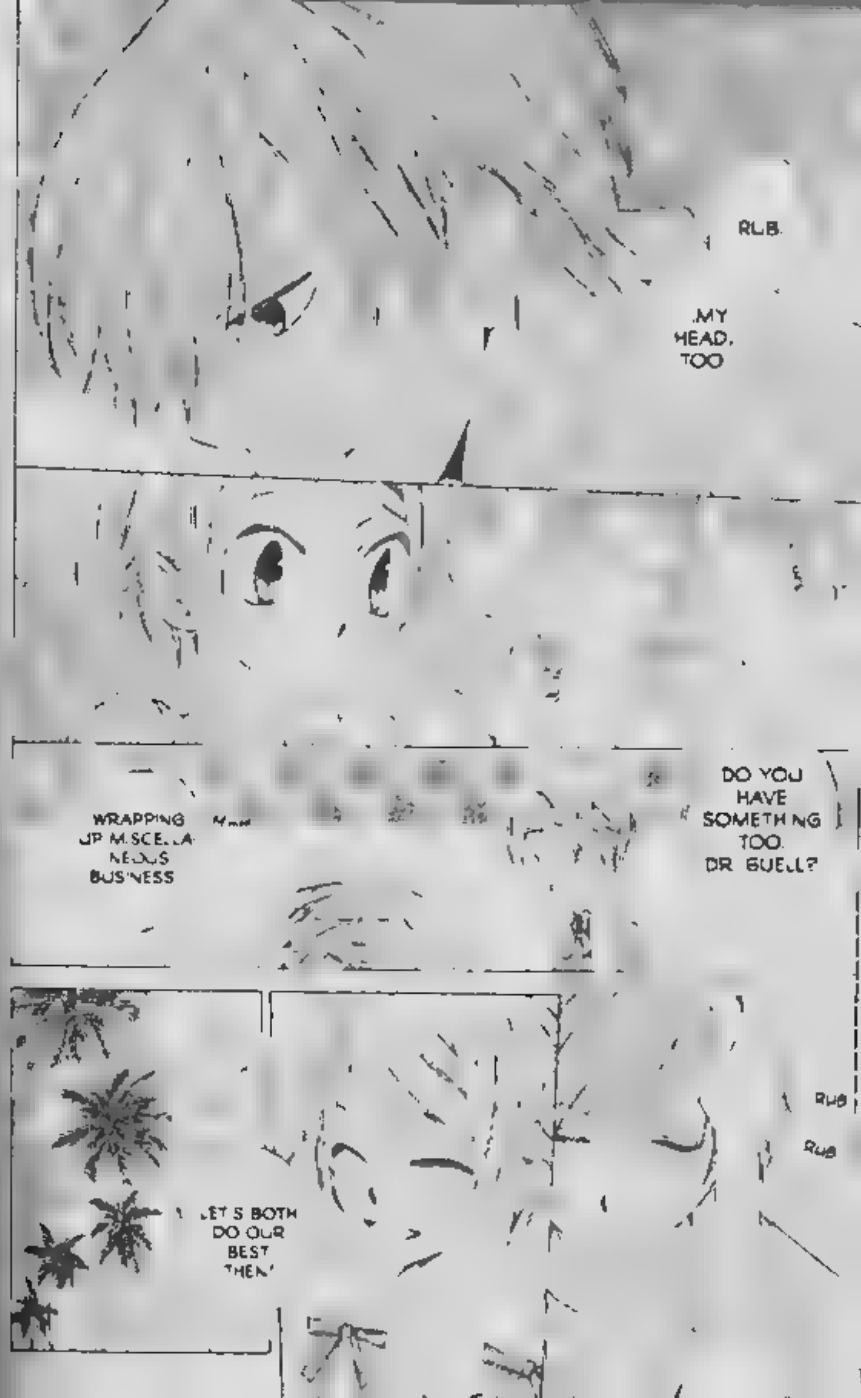
STUDENT LITTLE BIRD SEE YOU LATER


4
GUELL
I NEVER REALLY CONCENTRATED ON TRYING TO DRAW DR. GUELL TO LOOK HANDSOME. I JUST TRIED TO MAKE HIM LOOK LIKE HIMSELF. ALTHOUGH I DID TRY TO MAKE HIM WITH THE CHARM OF AN INNOCENT CHILD AT THE END OF VOLUME ONE I WROTE THAT HE HAS A FAMILY NAME BUT THAT NAME WAS GIVEN TO HIM BY THE FINNISH SCHOLAR WHO TOOK HIM IN SO MY IMAGE OF THE DOCTOR'S "NORTHERN COUNTRIES" IS FINLAND. EVEN THOUGH I NEVER INTRODUCED ANY THING INTO THE SERIES THAT WAS EVEN VAGUELY FINNISH
SHAKE SHAKE
AM I FORGETTING ANYTHING?
THEN I'LL SEE YOU LATER
DAY ONE OF THE WRITTEN TESTS.
BEGIN.
DID I REMEMBER TO BRING A PENCIL SHARPENING KNIFE?
YES
DO I HAVE EXTRA PENCILS AND ERASERS?
YES.
I'M NOT THAT SWEATY I MEAN
PILED
DO I HAVE HANDKERCHIEFS TO WIPE SWEAT OFF MY HANDS?
YES
IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR YOU TO WORRY
SINCE ALL BIRDS HAVE TO WAIT IN THE AVIARY DURING THE WRITTEN TESTS
RUSTLE
AND THIS TOO YOU SAY? WHAT IS IT?
A STRING OF PAPER CRANES FOR GOOD LUCK?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
I'LL PASS THAT DARN FINAL!

MMMM
AN-
OTHER
GOOD
DAY
END OF DAY 2.
CRASH
SORRY I
WAS IN A
RUSH NOT
LOOKING
WHERE I
WAS
FLASH!
CELLO
DR.
GUELL!
WHAT'S
THE
BREAD
FOR?
THIS'S
MY
LUNCH
LUNCH?
IT'S
EVENING
ALREADY
CHIK
CHIK
CHIK
HEH HEH
THAT'S
BECAUSE
I'M A
LITTLE
DIFFER-
ENT
FROM
HOW I
WAS
LAST
YEAR
AS EXPECTED
I'M GETTING
THROUGH THIS
FASTER THAN I
DID LAST YEAR
3
4
5
6
TIK
TIK
I'M
DONE
SO I'M
OUTTA
HERE
TIK
VERY
GOOD
ALL RIGHT
PUT YOUR
PENCILS
DOWN.
ALTHOUGH
ONLY TEN
MINUTES
HAVE
PASSED

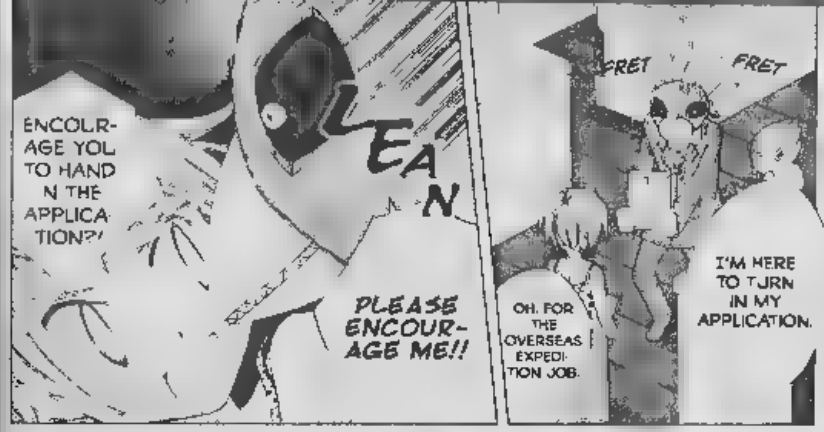
PLEASE RUB IT ONE MORE TIME
NOW I HAVE A FEELING THAT I'LL BE OKAY TOMORROW TOO
YES?
CELLO
HOW ARE FINALS GOING?
YES HARD AS IT IS TO BELIEVE EVEN I GET BUSY ONCE IN A WHILE
I WAS SWAMPED ALL DAY WITH ROUTINE DUTIES.
EH?
THAT'S UNUSUAL
?
OH, YEAH?
SO FAR SO GOOD I THINK
WHAT?
MY HEAD


OH WE... I'll LOOK OVER MY NOTES 'TIL IT'S TIME
MAYBE I WOKE UP TOO EARLY
LOOKS LIKE I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE
THIRD DAY
SOMEONE'S HERE BEFORE ME
AGAIN?!
RATTLE
STUDENT
DUN DUN!


RUB
MY HEAD, TOO
WRAPPING UP MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS
DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TOO, DR. GUELL?
LET'S BOTH DO OUR BEST THEN!
RUB
RUB

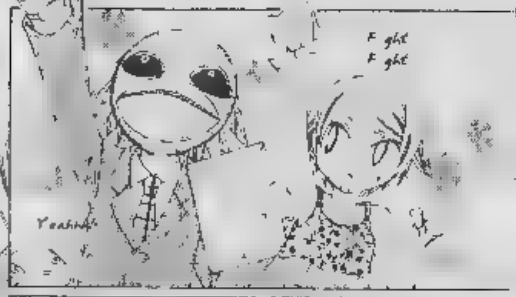
WITH MY MIND AND BODY HARDENING UNTIL I FORGOT HOW TO MOVE.
BY CURLING UP INTO A BALL.
IT'S LIKE I CREATED A THICK SHELL...

THAT MAKES ME FEEL REASSURED
Yayyy!
ALL RIGHT I'VE GOT IT
I'LL ENCOURAGE YOU ON THE DAY OF YOUR INTERVIEW, TOO.
BUT YOU BROKE THROUGH THAT STUDENT
SCRATCH SCRATCH
IN FACT WE CAN GO WITH DR. GUELL TO THE INTERVIEW HALL.
DID YOU ASK HIM TO BE THERE?
I DON'T WANNA GO BACK TO IT.
EVEN IF WHAT LIES AHEAD IS UNCERTAIN. I WANNA TAKE A STEP FORWARD.
BUT


ENCOURAGE YOU TO HAND IN THE APPLICATION?!
PLEASE ENCOURAGE ME!!
FRET FRET
OH, FOR THE OVERSEAS EXPEDITION JOB.
I'M HERE TO TURN IN MY APPLICATION.

COMPARED TO MY DAD, YOU'RE NOT NEARLY AS ANNOYING.
YOU'RE SICK OF ME BY NOW, AREN'T YOU?

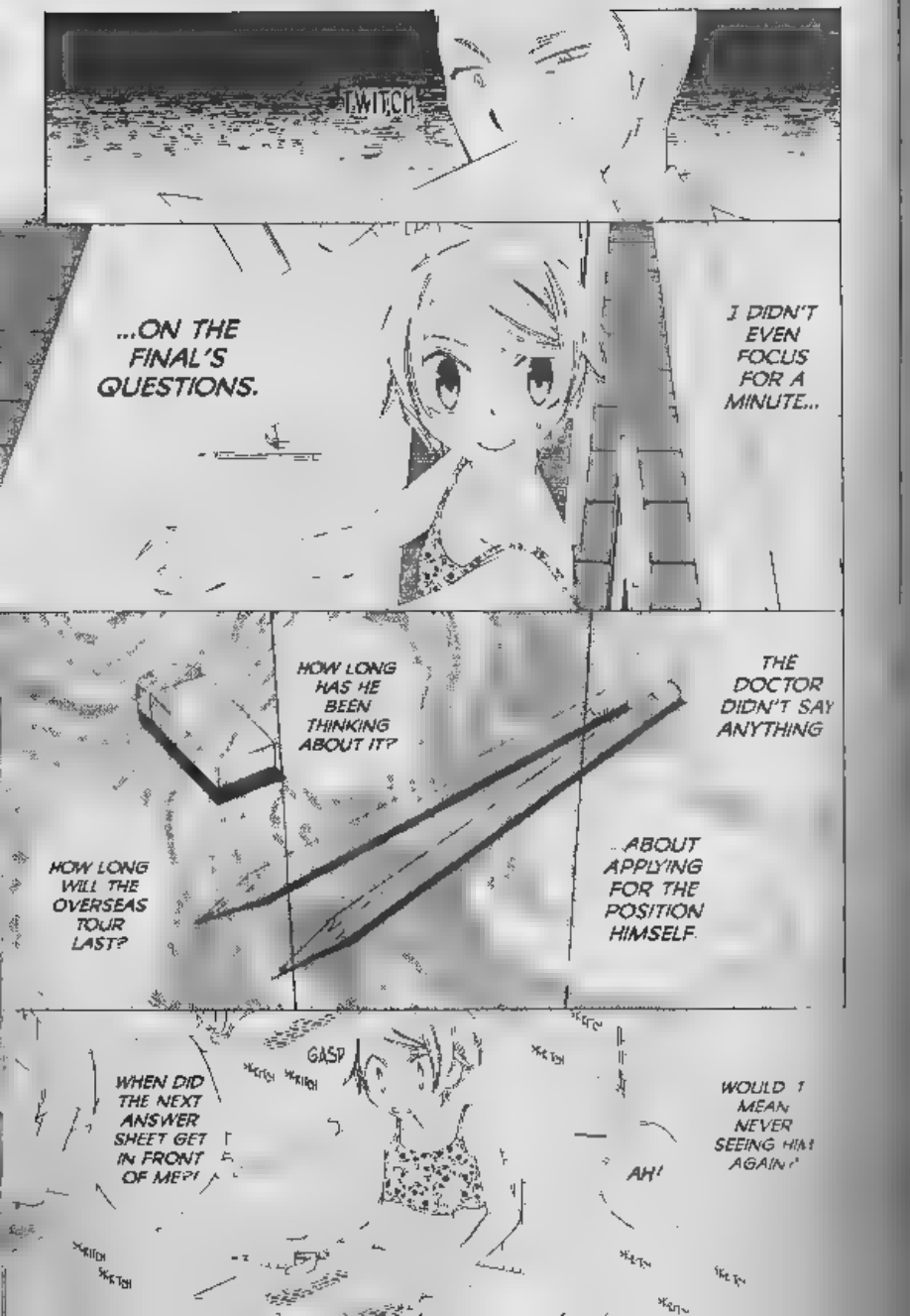
I'M SCARED OF FAILING.
I'M SCARED OF FAILING AND LOSING FAITH IN MYSELF AGAIN.
THAT'S ALL I THINK ABOUT

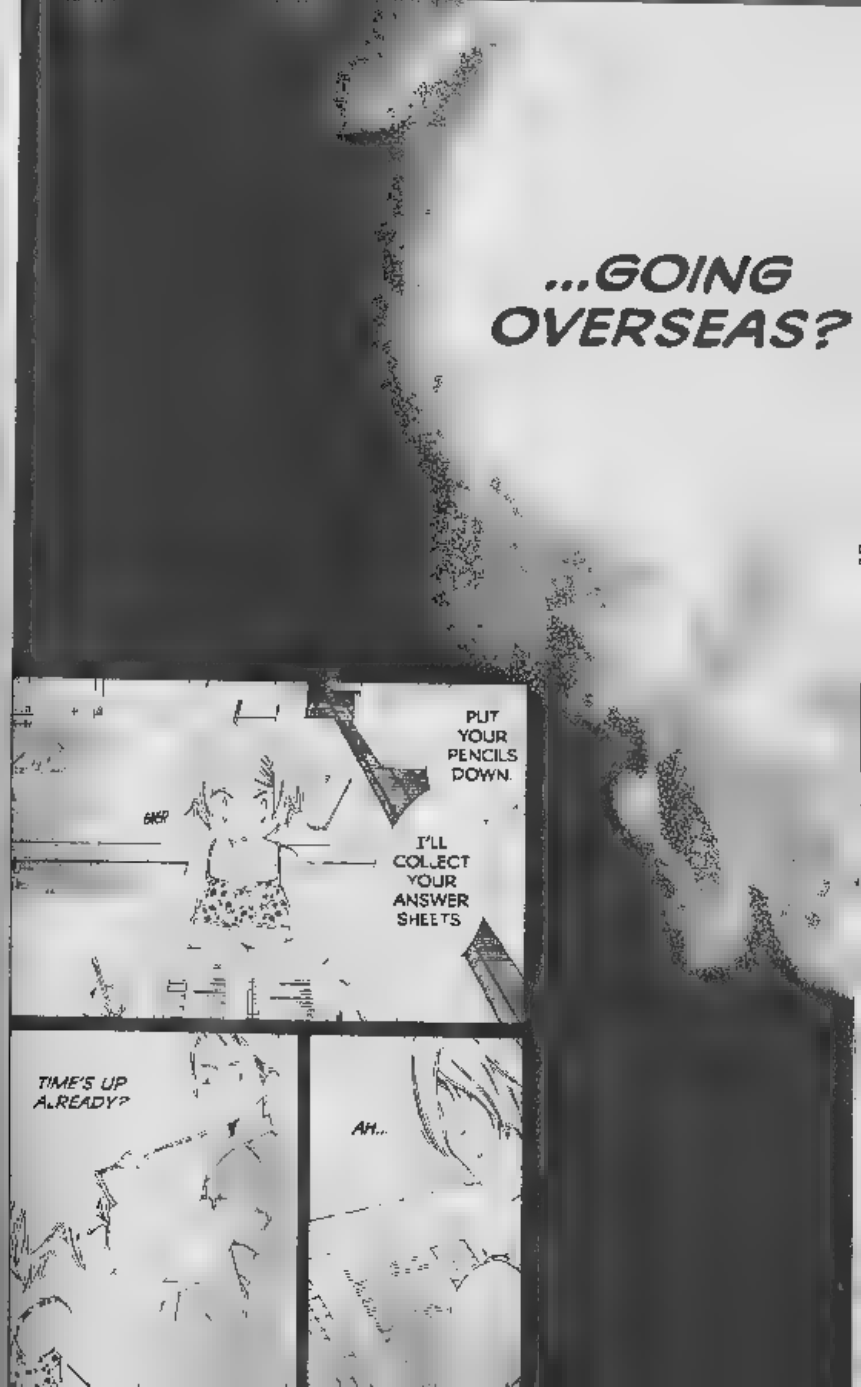

F ghh
F ghh

BUT WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO IF YOU SCORE AN INTERVIEW?
YEAH
YOU'LL HAVE TO REMOVE THE MASK FOR THAT

IS DR. GUELL...
UH-HUH
SO IT SEEMS.
UH.
THE DOCTOR !
..IS GOING TO INTERVIEW FOR THE POSITION ?

...WHAT IF I DON'T GET THE JOB AND ONLY DR. GUELL DOES?
GRAB
WHAT'D YOU JUST SAY?
IF YOU DON'T GET THE JOB. ?
KYAAA!
WHAT'LL I DO IF DR. GUELL IS THE ONLY ONE WHO'S CHOSEN?


TWITCH
...ON THE FINAL'S QUESTIONS.
I DIDN'T EVEN FOCUS FOR A MINUTE...
HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT?
THE DOCTOR DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING
HOW LONG WILL THE OVERSEAS TOUR LAST?
...ABOUT APPLYING FOR THE POSITION HIMSELF.
GASP
WHEN DID THE NEXT ANSWER SHEET GET IN FRONT OF ME?!
AH!
WOULD I MEAN NEVER SEEING HIM AGAIN?


...GOING OVERSEAS?
PUT YOUR PENCILS DOWN.
I'LL COLLECT YOUR ANSWER SHEETS
TIME'S UP ALREADY?
AH...

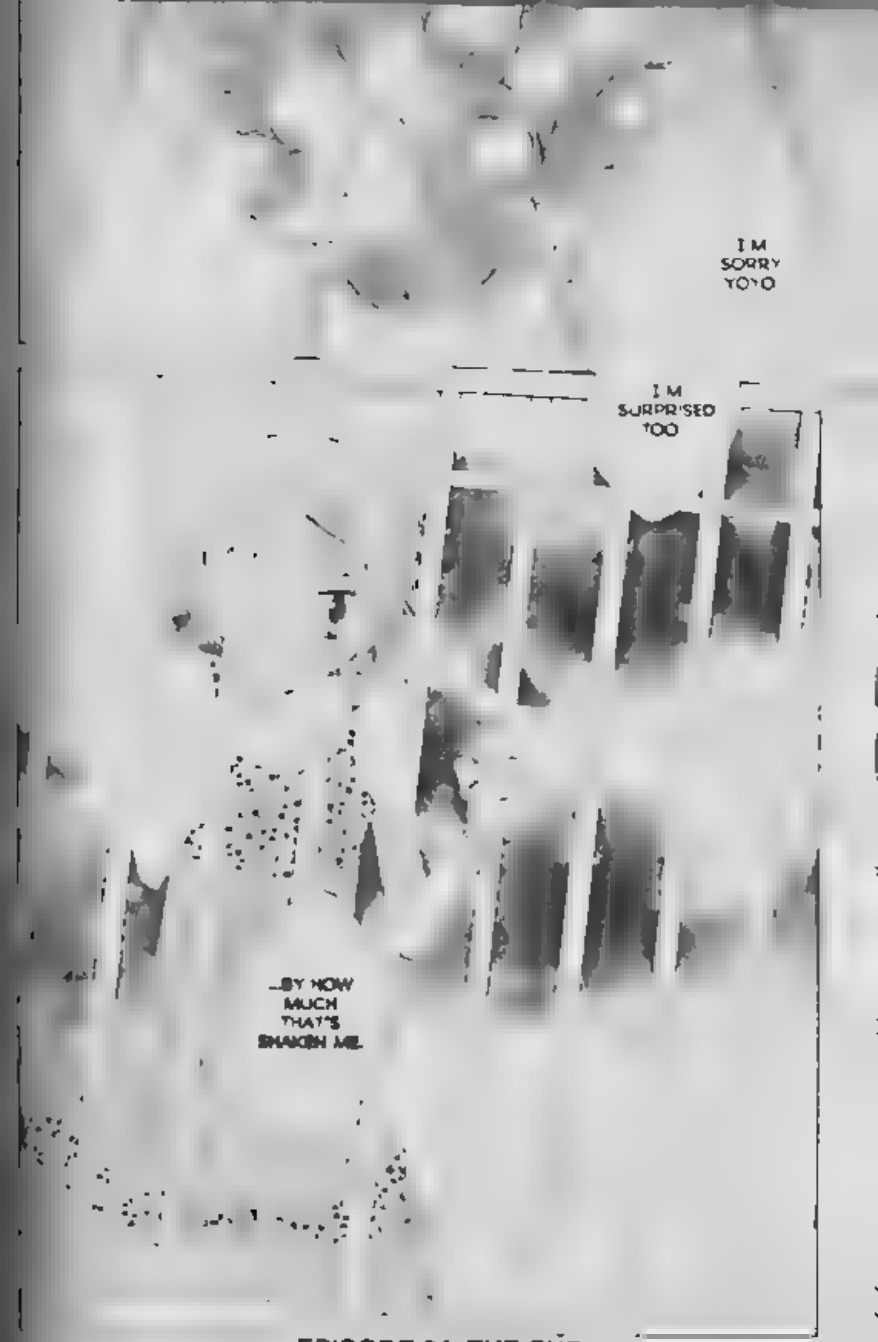
YOYO...
IF I DON'T GET ON THE BALL HERE
THIS IS VERY BAD
DECIDEDLY BAD..
RATTLE
MR. RITZ!
CAN I ASK YOU A FAVOR?!
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH

DON'T THINK
CONCENTRATE ON THE TEST!
DON'T THINK ABOUT THE DOCTOR RIGHT NOW.
THIS IS BAD.
ALL RIGHT PUT YOUR PENCILS DOWN.
WAAA-AAA

ARE YOU DONE GRADING YOUR TESTS?
FACULTY ROOM
THAT REPEATER CELLO.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. SHE ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE STUDYING SO SERIOUSLY
THE RESULT OF HER TEST IN MY SUBJECT WAS A TRAVESTY
ALMOST
MMM
DID SHE GO TO THE INFIRMARY?
PERHAPS SHE WAS FEELING UNDER THE WEATHER?
YOU TOO
CELLO'S TEST WAS A DISASTER IN MY CLASS TOO
I WONDER WHAT COULD'VE BEEN WRONG WITH HER
THE RESULTS FROM HER FIRST TWO DAYS WERE FINE SMOOTH SAILING
NO.
I'M DONE AND BEFORE YOU ASK SHE SQUEAKED BY

PUT YOUR PENCILS DOWN.
FLAP FLAP
THAT'S RIGHT
I'M NOT ALONE "
I'LL ALLOW THE GOOD LUCK CHARM THING, BUT MAKE THAT WRAITH GO BACK TO THE AVIARY
SKRITCH SKRITCH SKRITCH
THIS IS THE FINAL SUBJECT
IF I CAN ONLY ANSWER THE QUESTIONS CALMLY
THIS CONCLUDES THE WRITING PORTION OF YOUR FINAL EXAMS
..I'M SURE I'LL BE ABLE TO SCRAPE BY

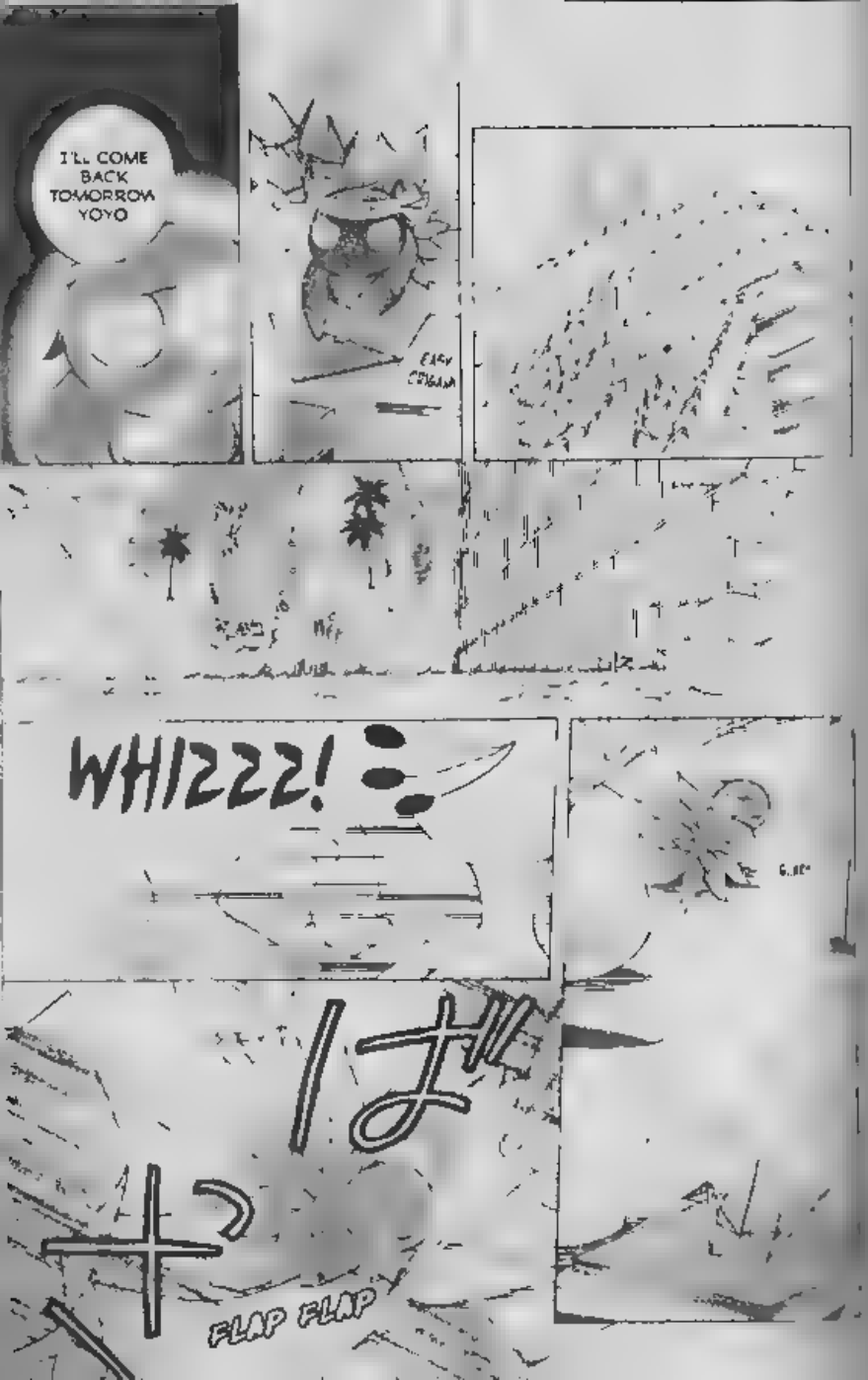
I FAILED THE WRITTEN TEST
WHAPI
DOES ANYONE THINK I CAN TURN AROUND
WITH TOMORROW'S PRACTICAL TEST?
WHAT AM I GONNA DO? I... HAVE TO RETAKE FIRST YEAR AGAIN
YOU'RE ASKING ME IF SOMETHING HAPPENED?
I MAY NEVER
BE ABLE TO SEE DR. JEKYLL AGAIN
...SHE'S GONNA FLUNK AGAIN
TORORORO
YOYO
THAT'S NOT THE ENTRANCE
GRANG



EPISODE 24: THE END

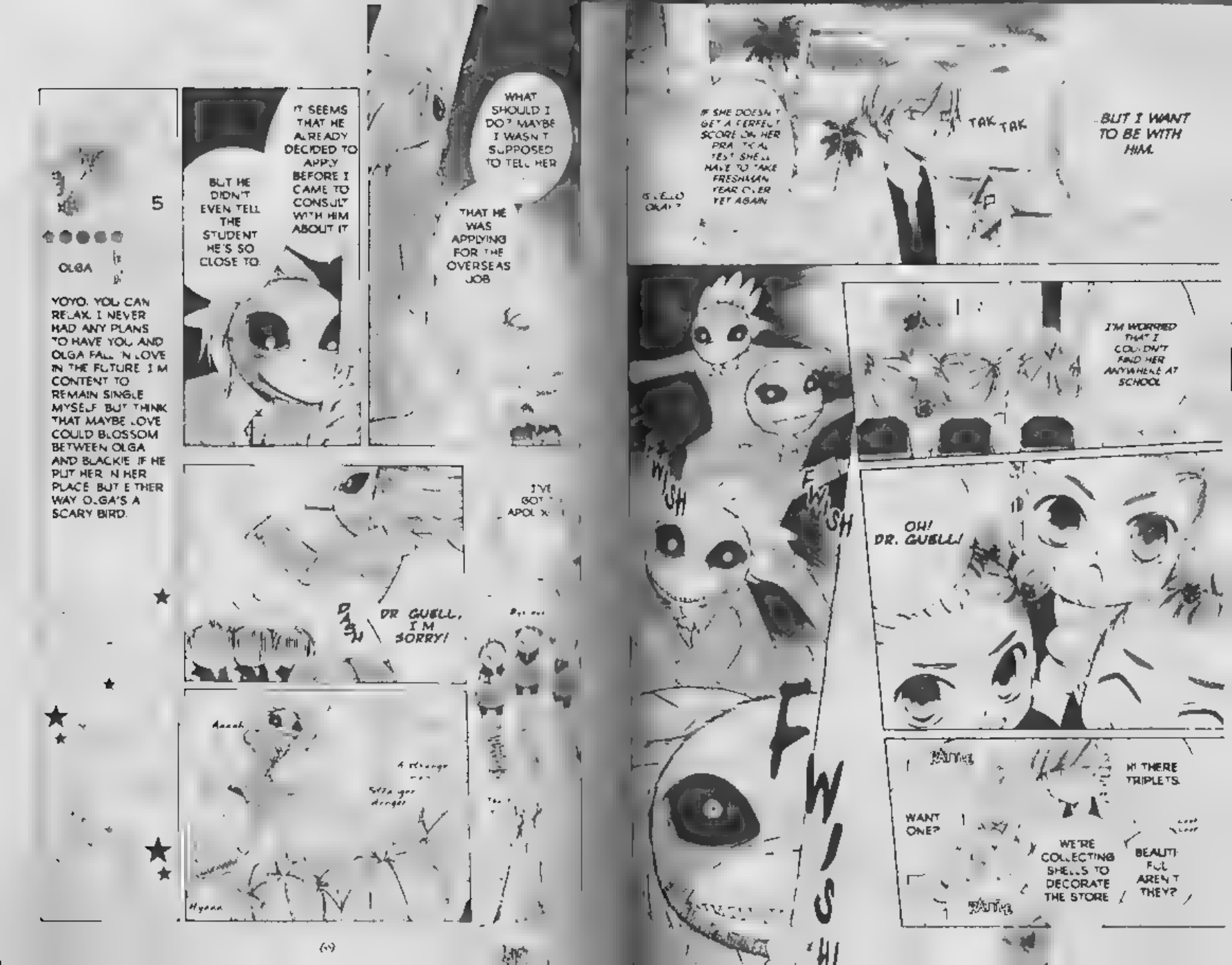
秋色

EPISODE 25


I'LL COME BACK TOMORROW YOYO
EASY COMIAN
WHIZZZ!
FLAP FLAP

...AND COLOR MAGICIANS KNOWN AS "PALETTES"
THE REMOTE ISLAND OF OPAL IN THE SOUTH SEAS
IS HOME TO BIRDS WITH THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL FEATHERS.
THE ONLY WAY I CAN SAVE MYSELF IS THROUGH THE REMAINING PRACTICAL TEST BUT
I WAS SO SHOCKED BY DR GUELL'S PLANS TO GO ABROAD.
THAT I'M IN DANGER OF REPEATING FRESHMAN YEAR A THIRD TIME
FOR NOW
I WANT TO TALK TO THE DOCTOR ABOUT T

HE'S NOT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
NO, I'M NOT HIS GIRLFRIEND I JUST LOVE HIM.
I DON'T KNOW IF I HAVE THE RIGHT TO INTRUDE ON HIM LIKE THIS WITH MY SELFISHNESS
AM I ACTING LIKE A GIRLFRIEND?
COO!
WHY DO YOU LET THAT STUPID JERK TOY WITH YOUR HEART?!
WE MADE A VOW TO EACH OTHER DIDN'T WE?
SO WHY?
CELLO


5
OLGA
YOYO. YOU CAN RELAX. I NEVER HAD ANY PLANS TO HAVE YOU AND OLGA FALL IN LOVE IN THE FUTURE. I'M CONTENT TO REMAIN SINGLE MYSELF. BUT I THINK THAT MAYBE LOVE COULD BLOSSOM BETWEEN OLGA AND BLACKIE. IF HE PUT HER IN HER PLACE. BUT EITHER WAY, OLGA'S A SCARY BIRD.
BUT HE DIDN'T EVEN TELL THE STUDENT HE'S SO CLOSE TO.
IT SEEMS THAT HE ALREADY DECIDED TO APPLY BEFORE I CAME TO CONSULT WITH HIM ABOUT IT.
WHAT SHOULD I DO? MAYBE I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TELL HER
THAT HE WAS APPLYING FOR THE OVERSEAS JOB
I'VE GOT TO APOLOGIZE
DR. GUELL, I'M SORRY!
Aaaah
A strange man!
Hyaaa
IF SHE DOESN'T GET A PERFECT SCORE ON HER PRACTICAL TEST SHE'LL HAVE TO TAKE FRESHMAN YEAR OVER YET AGAIN
HELLO OKAY?
TAK TAK
BUT I WANT TO BE WITH HIM.
I'M WORRIED THAT I COULDN'T FIND HER ANYWHERE AT SCHOOL
WISH
FWISH
FWISH
OH! DR. GUELL!
HI THERE TRIPLETS.
WANT ONE?
WE'RE COLLECTING SHELLS TO DECORATE THE STORE
BEAUTIFUL AREN'T THEY?

IT'S TRUE THAT I'M GOING TO INTERVIEW FOR THE POSITION.
IF I'M ACCEPTED, I'LL BE GONE FOR SOME YEARS.
WHY SO SUDDENLY ?
KA-CHA
YOU GOT THAT FROM JEAN?
IS IT TRUE?
I THOUGHT I'D WAIT TILL AFTER YOUR TESTS WERE OVER
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

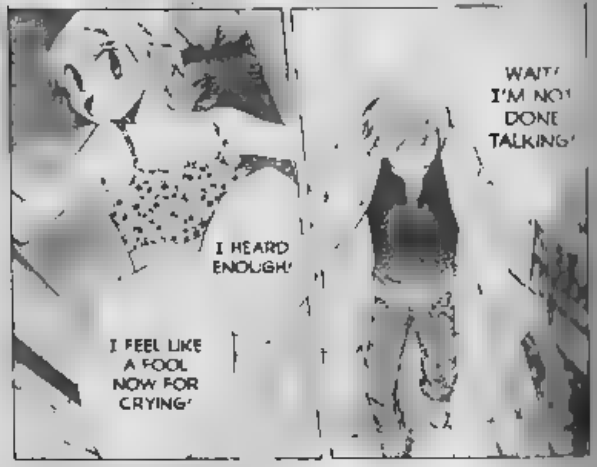
YOU WERE HERE?
DOCTOR!
CELLO?
IS IT TRUE YOU'RE GOING ABROAD?!
CELLO, ABOUT TODAY'S TESTS.
I'VE KIND OF BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.

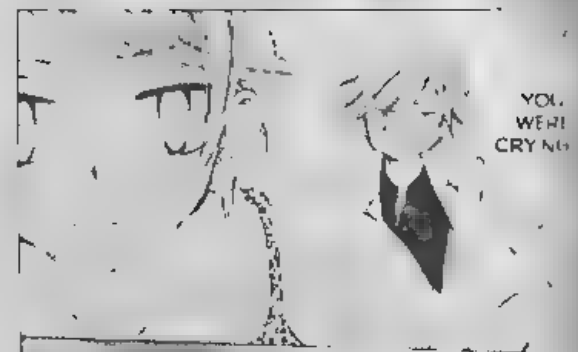
THIS IS THE FIRST PICTURE I'VE SEEN OF THEM
I NEVER FELT LIKE LOOKING AT IT, SO I KEPT IT IN A BOX FOR THE LONGEST TIME
LAST TIME I WAS HERE YOU DIDN'T HAVE IT OUT
BUT RECENTLY, I'VE FINALLY BEEN ABLE TO PUT IT OUT
I'M CELLO.
I'D BE LONELY WITHOUT YOU.
CAN'T I ASK YOU NOT TO GO?
DOCTOR. WHEN I THINK ABOUT BEING SEPARATED FROM YOU,
SO I THOUGHT MAYBE NOW WOULD BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY.

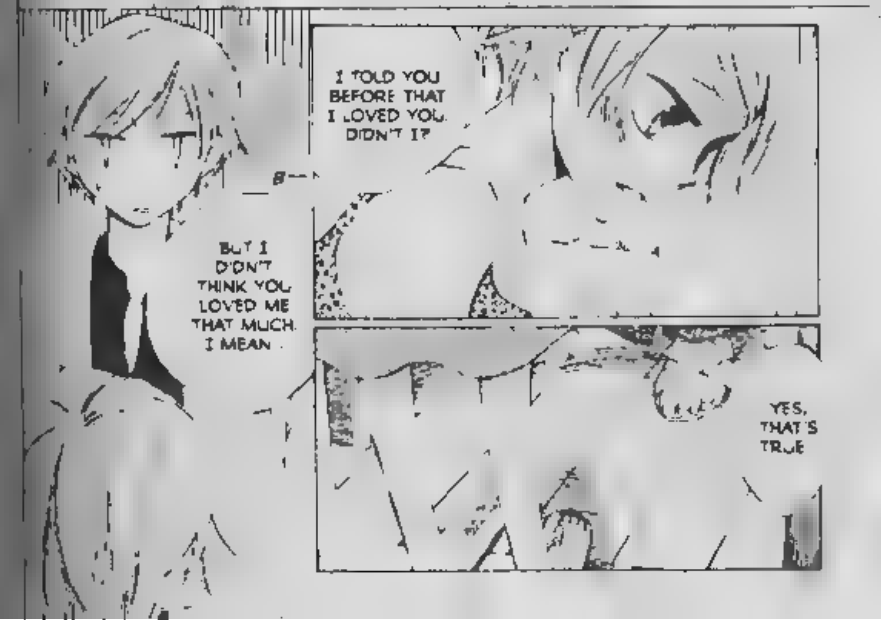
SAY IS THAT WHY YOUR TESTS TODAY WERE A DISASTER?
DISASTER
BUT YOU'VE STAYED HERE ON THE ISLAND BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT BEING A DOCTOR IS A BETTER FIT FOR YOU.
THAT'S PART OF IT
SINCE YOU'RE WELL AWARE OF THE SITUATION, PLEASE BE MORE GENTLE WITH YOUR WORDS
EVEN BEFORE I BECAME A DOCTOR
GOSTA AND MAGE HAVE BEEN INVITING ME TO JOIN THEM.
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED
THE OTHER IS THAT WHEN I WAS WITH THEM THE OLDER SISTER AND YOUNGER BROTHER...
I'D FEEL EVEN MORE KEENLY THAT I NO LONGER HAD A FAMILY
IT HURT TO REMEMBER
YOUR FAMILY

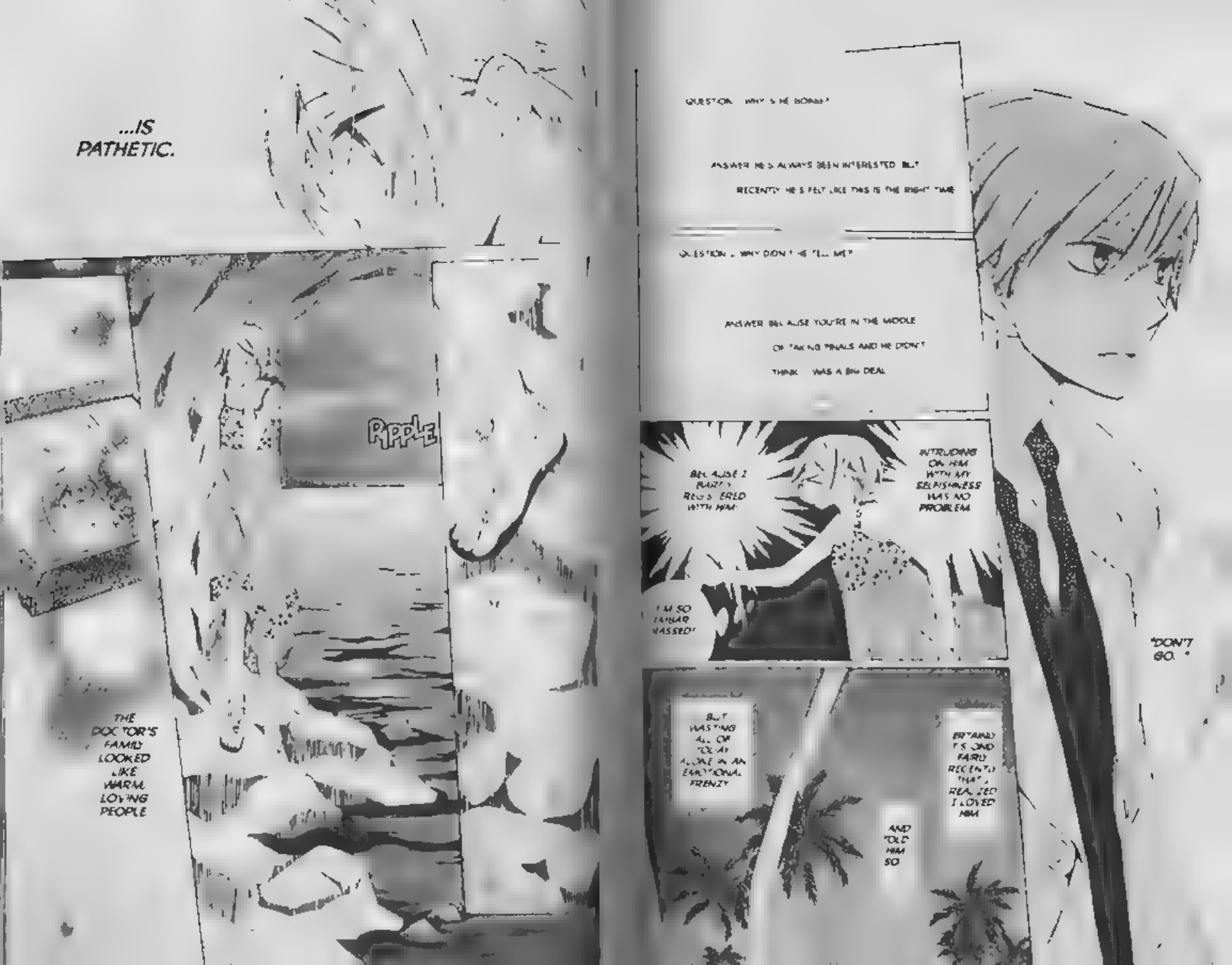
MOSSELYN

MOSSELYN'S BOYFRIEND IS LIKE DETECTIVE COLUMBO'S WIFE HE COMES UP IN CONVERSATION BUT NEVER APPEARS HER BOYFRIEND MAY HAVE BEEN THE GUY MOSSELYN WAS DANC NG WITH AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY IN EPISODE FOUR BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER THE BIRTHDAY OF THIS OCCASIONALLY COMPLIMENTED BUT NEVER TO APPEAR CHARACTER IS MARCH THE FOURTH.








...IS PATHETIC.
RIPPLE
THE DOCTOR'S FAMILY LOOKED LIKE WARM, LOVING PEOPLE
QUESTION: WHY'S HE BORING?
ANSWER: HE'S ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED BUT RECENTLY HE'S FELT LIKE THIS IS THE RIGHT TIME
QUESTION 2: WHY DIDN'T HE TELL ME?
ANSWER: BECAUSE YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF TAKING FINALS AND HE DIDN'T THINK IT WAS A BIG DEAL
BECAUSE I DIDN'T REGISTERED WITH HIM
INTRUDING ON HIM WITH MY SELFISHNESS WAS NO PROBLEM
I'M SO FURIOUS RIGHT NOW!
BUT WASTING ALL OF TODAY ALONE IN AN EMOTIONAL FRENZY
AND TOLD HIM SO
BRYAN'S 2ND FAIRY RECENTLY THAT I REALIZED I LOVED HIM
"DON'T GO."

I CAN SEE IT BY LOOKING AT YOU.
YOU LOVE HER DON'T YOU, DR GUELL?
COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER!!
HEY, DOC
HE SAW THROUGH HIM TOO..
TELL HER EXACTLY HOW YOU FEEL! YOU LOVE HER, RIGHT?!
..YOU HANDSOME DEVIL!
THROB!
YES I LOVE HER
BUT IT'S ONLY LOVE.
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY FURTHER RIGHT NOW
WHAT DO YA MEAN, "ONLY"?!
THWAK

IF I DON'T GET HIRED FOR THE POSITION I'M GOING TO LOOK LIKE A REAL FOOL
DR GUELL!
SPLOOSH
JEAN
EH? ARE THOSE TEARS?
I SUPPOSE IT IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM..
I'M SORRY I TOLD THE STUDENT ABOUT IT I DIDN'T REALIZE
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU TWO?
NO.
Whatever
HAVE YOU SEEN CELLO PASS BY HERE?
I WANTED HER ENCOURAGEMENT
YOU COULD SAY THAT
I KIND OF MISCALCULATED TOO
THAT'S ALL.
YOU CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD BY PAYING CELLO A PERSONAL VISIT

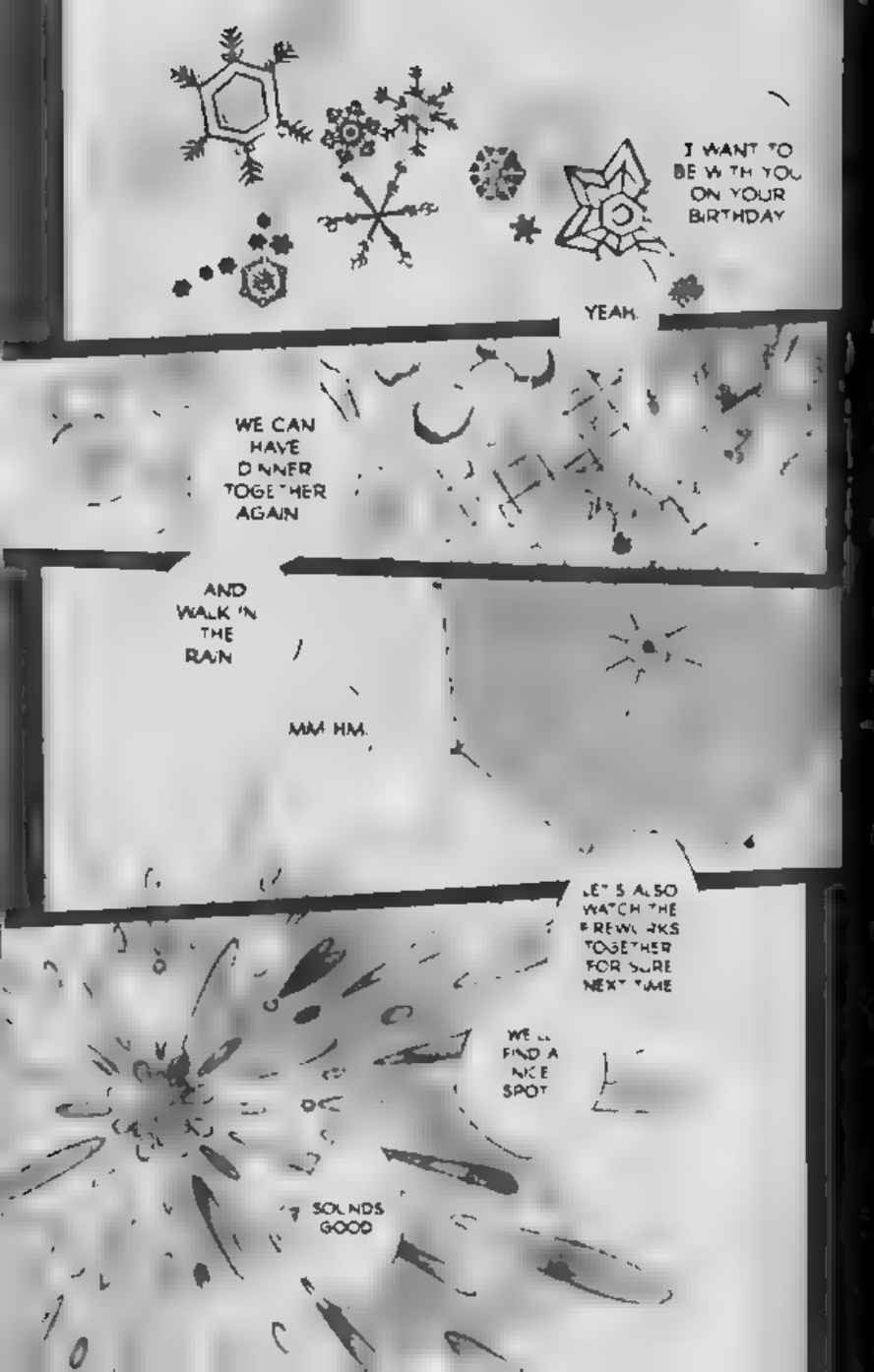
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I CAME TO THIS COVE
BUT THE LAMP IS STILL HERE FROM LAST TIME
RIPPLE
WAS IT ON MY BIRTHDAY THAT HE SAVED ME BY BURNING A BOOK?
THERE'S EMERGENCY FOOD AND EVEN A PILLOW NOW
GUELL
MIGHT AS WELL EAT
I DON'T THINK I'M GONNA BE COMING BACK HERE AFTER THIS
RIPPLE
BISCUITS
YOU'RE PINNING YOUR HOPES ON ME?
THERE ARE LOTSA THINGS A PERSON CAN LEARN FROM LOVE
ONE SIDE
AND HER
REVEL IN LOVE SO WE CAN EXPERIENCE IT VICARIOUSLY!
I'M AFRAID THAT I'M GETTING IN THE WAY OF CELLO BECOMING A PALETTE
IS THAT WHY YOU APPLIED?
WELL, THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON.

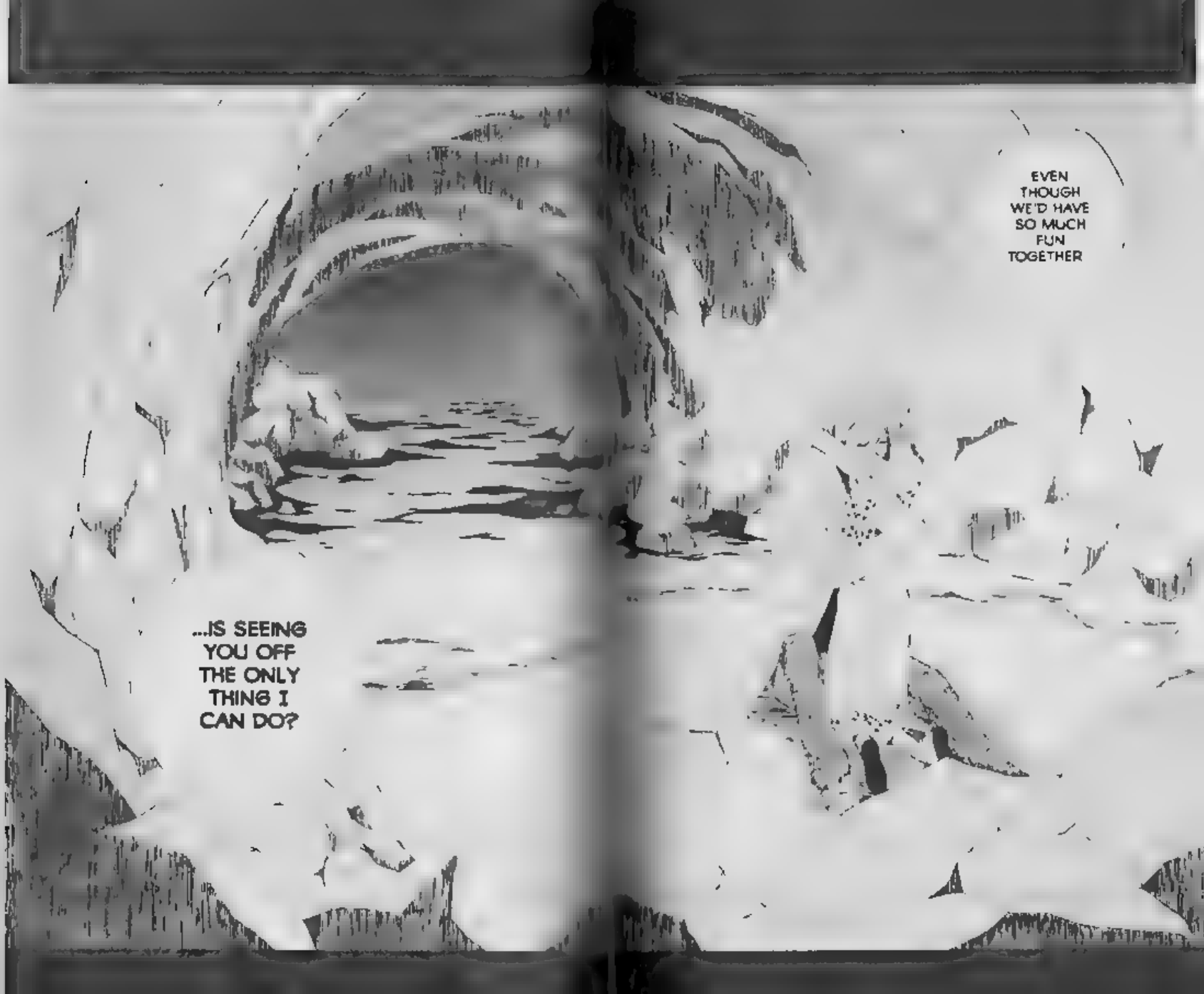
IT IS TRUE.
OH, THAT'S NOT.
I'LL NEVER GET BACK...
WHAT WAS PRECIOUS TO ME
BUT
YOU FINALLY MADE ME BELIEVE THAT MY HEART DIDN'T DIE WHEN MY FAMILY DID.
EVERY DAY WITH YOU, EVEN DAYS WHERE YOU MADE MY HEART RACE OR GAVE ME BUTTERFLIES IN THE STOMACH
WERE FUN
I FEEL BLESSED TO HAVE MET YOU.
THEN LET'S BE TOGETHER!
ARE YOU RYNO?
IS CANCELLED SN'T IT?
MY PROMISE TO REPAY YOU DOUBLE ON YOUR BIRTHDAY
And what are you eating?
EITHER WAY I COULDN'T PAY YOU BACK TWOFOLD
I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY
FOR YOU TO PAY THAT BACK. SINCE MY FEELINGS FOR YOU ARE STRONGER THAN YOURS ARE FOR ME.
I GAVE YOU THE BOOK AS A TOKEN OF MY FEELINGS.
SHUN
SO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
A NICE BOOK AS A PRESENT (MEDIUM RARE)
I FOUND YOU.
BISCUIT

WHAT CAN I DO?
FOO
THUNK
AH!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO APOLOGIZE
RIPPLE
I LOVE YOU DR. GUELL
I'M SORRY

HE DID "REGISTER" MY PRESENCE
I WANT TO TRY USING THE STRENGTH YOU GAVE ME
TO DO THE THING I COULDN'T UP UNTIL NOW
TELL YOU I LOVE YOU AND IT DOESN'T GO THROUGH
YOU TELL ME TO DO MY BEST
BUT DON'T TREAT ME WITH SPECIAL KINDNESS
THAT'S WHY THE DOCTOR IS GOING
YOU'RE ALSO THINKING THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO INTERFERE WITH MY STUDIES AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S TRUE
HOW CAN I STOP HIM?
SHAKE
AND ON TOP OF THAT YOU'RE GOING FAR AWAY?!
I SELF DESTRUCTED ON MY FINALS! YOU COULDN'T INTERFERE WITH MY STUDIES ANY MORE THAN THAT!!
SHAKE
THAT'S WHAT THE STICKLER FOR RULES SAID TOO
STERN GUELL
WHO'S A STICKLER FOR RULES?

MY FORE HEAD
I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE WHAT THAT WAS
IT'S SO DARK
OH. JUST YOUR FINGERS
HUH? BUT
I LOVE YOU, TOO.


I WANT TO BE W TH YOU ON YOUR BIRTHDAY
YEAH.
WE CAN HAVE D NNER TOGE THER AGAIN
AND WALK 'N THE RAIN
MM HM.
LET S ALSO WATCH THE F REWL RKS TOGETHER FOR SURE NEXT TIME
WE FIND A NICE SPOT
SOUNDS GOOD


...IS SEEING YOU OFF THE ONLY THING I CAN DO?
EVEN THOUGH WE'D HAVE SO MUCH FUN TOGETHER

The Palette of 12 Secret Colors

しゅっにひそく
十二秘色のパレット

EPISODE 26

EPISODE 23 PREVIEW CUT

I THINK THAT IN THIS SERIES, NOT ONCE HAS CELLO SPORTED ANY ACCESSORIES (EXCLUDING THE TITLE PAGE ART) SHE DOESN'T SEEM TOO INTERESTED IN THAT KIND OF STUFF. IT'S NOT BECAUSE ACCESSORIES ARE A PAIN TO DRAW.

EPISODE 24 PREVIEW CUT

THIS LOOKS LIKE IT COULD BE A BAGEL, BUT IT'S A DOUGHNUT.
A CHOCOLATE ONE.
I LIKE THIS DRAWING.

THEN I'LL SURPRISE YOU BY SHOWING HOW DILIGENT I CAN BE
SNIFF
DOCTOR I HAVE A HARD ME PICTURE YOU BE A FAITHFU CORRESPONDENT
ACCORDING TO MY DAD
SO WRITE ME BACK.
...YOU'D BE FINE NOT TALKING TO SOMEBODY YOU LOVED FOR THREE MONTHS!
I COULD BEAR IT.
BUT I WOULDN'T BE "FINE"
I LOVE DR. GUELL.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO LEAVE ME
I DON'T WANT TO BE SEPARATED.
AND COLOR MAGICIANS. KNOWN AS "PALETTES"
IS HOME TO BIRDS WITH THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL FEATHERS.
THE REMOTE ISLAND OF OPAL IN THE SOUTH SEAS
WHEN I ASKED DR GUELL IF THE ONLY THING I COULD DO WAS SEE HIM OFF. HE NODDED.
RIPPLE
RIPPLE
RIPPLE
I'LL COME BACK AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A YEAR AND SEND LETTERS OF COURSE
SNIFF

TODAY I RECEIVED A SHELL FROM THE TRIPLETS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS COLOR?
?
DO YOU LIKE IT?
YES.
GOOD.
..IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THE SECRET COLORS ?
FOO

IN THE COUNTRY WHERE I AM FROM.
SPECIFICALLY FOR THE THIRD FINGER ON THE LEFT HAND
PEOPLE GIVE EACH OTHER RINGS AS PROOF OF THEIR FEELINGS
WE DON'T HAVE THAT CUSTOM HERE IN OPAL.
SCUFF
CELLO.
SIT THERE
NO, OBVIOUSLY I DIDN'T COME HERE BEARING A RING
IN THE FIRST PLACE, I MISREAD WHAT YOUR REACTION WAS GOING TO BE.
ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE ME A RING?

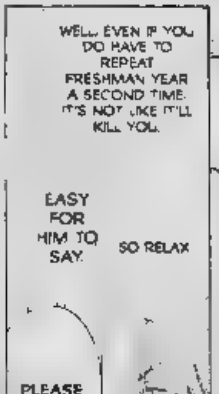
AS A PALETTE IN TRAINING YOU NEED YOUR HANDS TO BE COMPLETELY FREE OF ALL BRANCES
FROM HIS HEART HE'S DYED MY BODY
WHY
ON MY FOOT?
BUT I'M MATED
WHY, CELLO.
I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS COLOR
I'M GRATEFUL THAT YOU TRIED TO KEEP ME FROM LEAVING.
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I CAN DO IN EXCHANGE
IT'S A FRAUD TO CALL THIS A RING
SPIN
"PROOF OF THEIR FEELINGS..."
BUT IT WON'T COME OFF

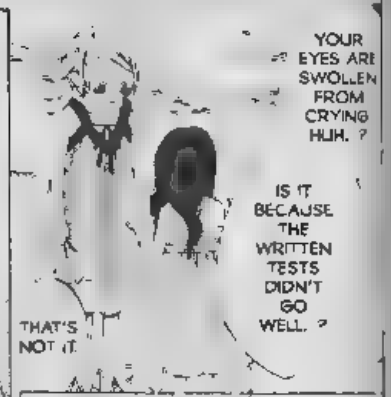
7

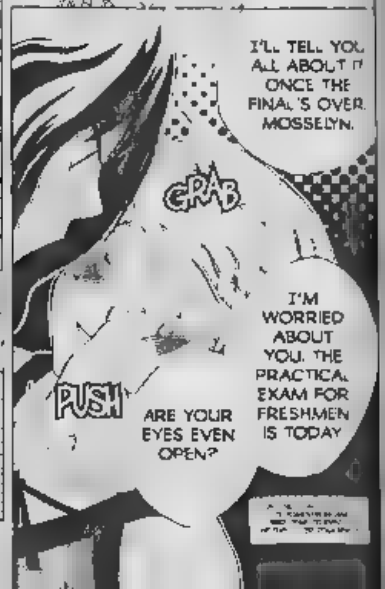
KECHONPA

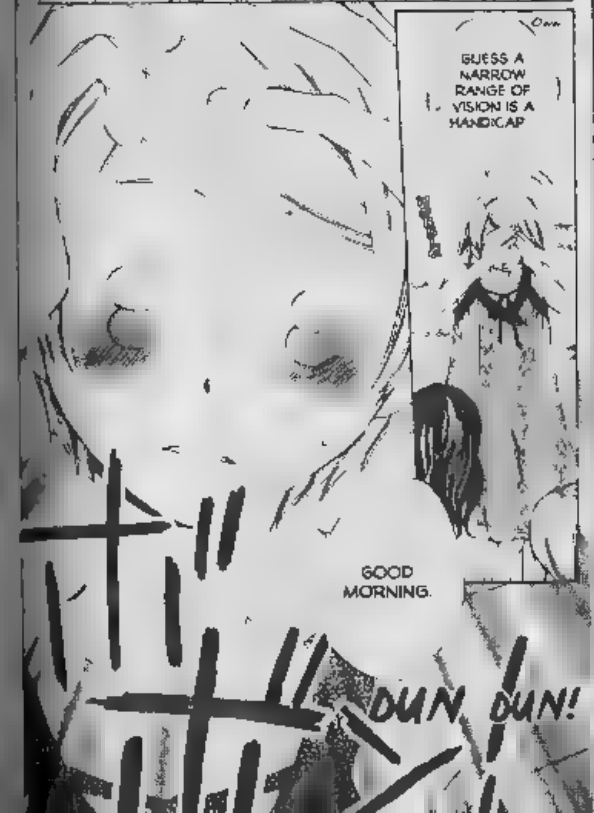
AS THE EPISODES ACCUMULATED ALL OF THE BIRDS TENDED TO BECOME SHORTER AND PLUMPER BUT KECHONPA IS THE ONE THAT CHANGED THE MOST ONCE IN A WHILE MOSSELYN USES KECHONPA FOR WEIGHT TRAINING.

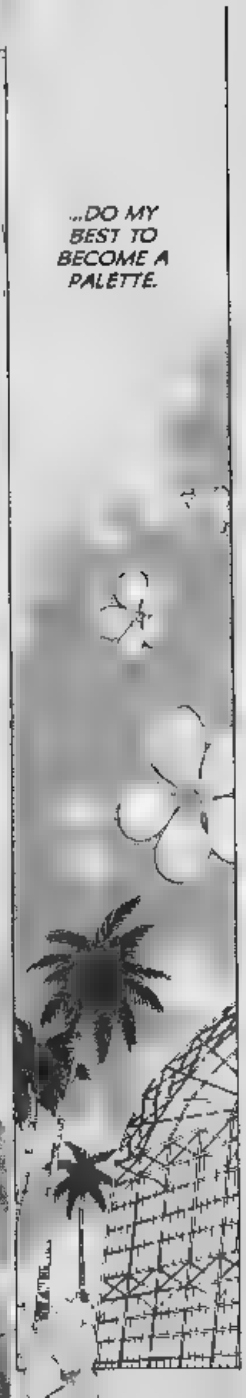
FOR


WELL EVEN IF YOU DO HAVE TO REPEAT FRESHMAN YEAR A SECOND TIME. IT'S NOT LIKE IT'LL KILL YOU.
EASY FOR HIM TO SAY. SO RELAX
PLEASE CALL YOYO.




I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT ONCE THE FINAL'S OVER. MOSSELYN.
GRAB
PUSH
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU. THE PRACTICAL EXAM FOR FRESHMEN IS TODAY
ARE YOUR EYES EVEN OPEN?





ALL RIGHT, FRESHMEN.
IN THE 12 COLORS COURSE
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO.
WAAAA'
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Cello my love
CLAP CLAP
YOYO, HOW ARE YOUR EYES?
SO YOU COULD SAY...
....THAT PALETTES ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE PEOPLE'S TREASURES.
WHICH IS WHY THE PRACTICAL EXAMINA TIONS ARE GIVEN IN THE TOWN'S PUBLIC SQUARE

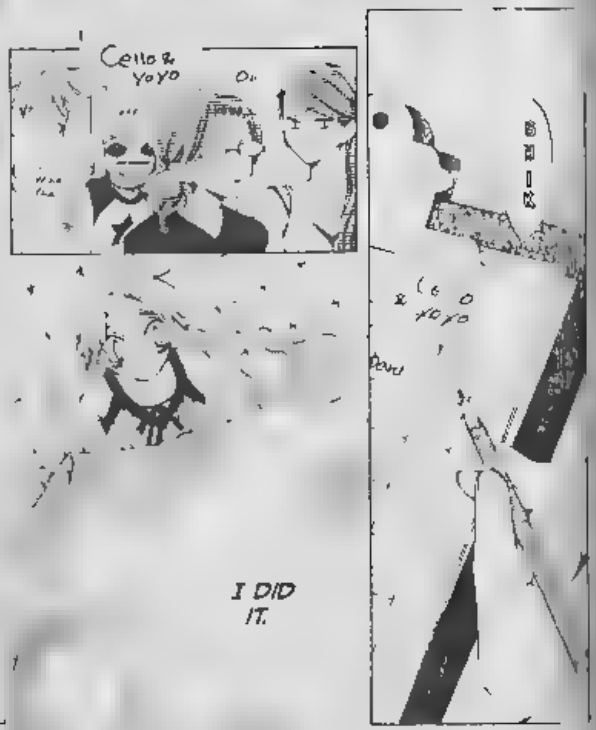
DUN
DUN!!
BOTH OF YOU BETTER GET THOSE EYES ON ICE'
HA HA HA HA HA HA
YOYO, YOU TOO?!
THESE BEAUTIFUL BIRDS ARE THE TOWN'S TREASURES
GRIND GRIND GRIND GRIND
ARE YOU SURE THAT S NOT AN EXPRES- SION OF RESENT- MENT INSTEAD OF WORRY?!
POP!
WELL
GOOD LUCK TO YOU BOTH.
YOU WERE WORR ED BECAUSE I FAILED THE WRITTEN PORTION. ?
NO. I CRIED ABOUT THE OTHER THING...

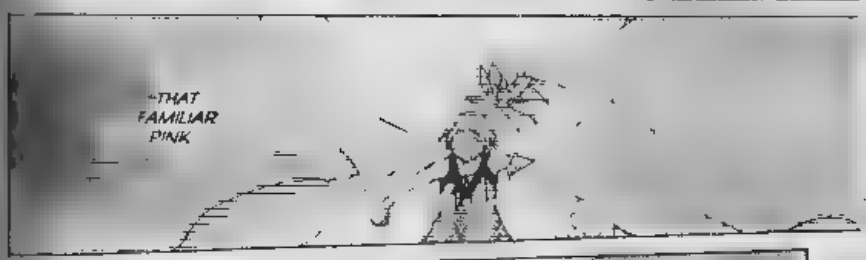
FENNE ALWAYS HAS A DIFFERENT TAKE ON THINGS...
NUMBERS ELEVEN THROUGH TWENTY!
GET IN POSITION
GO!
Fooo
CHEF
COME ON, YOYO!
BUT HE'S RIGHT
READY?
YOU HAVE THIRTY SECONDS TO USE THE UNDERLYING COLOR OF YOUR PARTNER BIRD
TO PAINT ONE OF THESE SHEETS WHICH HAVE BEEN DONATED TO US FROM NEMU'S BEDDING STORE!
FLUTTER
IN THIS TEST EACH PALETTE TRAINING WILL CREATE SOMETHING WITH EACH OF THE TWELVE COLORS TAKEN FROM THEIR PARTNER BIRD'S FEATHERS.
BUT BEFORE THAT WE'LL HAVE A LITTLE WARM-UP
WAAA
GO!
WHAT'S SWOLLEN EYES GOT TO DO WITH IT?
EVEN IF YOU WERE BLINDFOLDED YOU KNOW YOYO'S COLORS DON'T YOU?
THIS SHOULD BE A PIECE OF CAKE FOR YOU RIGHT?
BUT
YOUR SECOND GO-ROUND AS A FRESHMAN YOU'VE BEEN WITH YOUR BIRD A YEAR LONGER THAN EVERYONE ELSE HERE
SINCE THIS IS
STUDENTS ONE THROUGH TEN.
TAKE YOUR POSITION
WHAT SHOULD I DO? MY EYES ARE STILL SWOLLEN
READY?

FENNE

I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST CHARACTER WITH DROOPING EYES IN ONE OF MY STORIES
I'VE SPECULATED ABOUT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF FENNE EVENTUALLY HOOKED UP WITH GOST. BUT SHE IS TEN YEARS OLDER THAN HIM. I THINK IT'D BE FUNNY IF HE TOLD HER HE WAS IN LOVE WITH HER AND SHE TURNED HIM DOWN.
HIS BIRTHDAY IS JUNE 19TH.

MM.
THEY'RE ALL PERFORMING CAPABLY AREN'T THEY PRINCIPAL?
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU INTEND TO MAKE A BOLD COMEBACK!
WELL CELLO
YOU HAD ME WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN HERE





THANK YOU.
NOD!
WHICH COME TO US COURTESY OF THE FISHERMEN ASSOCIATION.
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BUT THE PRACTICAL TEST...
THE TASK IS TO PAINT THESE GLASS BALLS
NNCD
LET'S BEGIN WITH OUR FIRST COLOR.
BLUE.

RUB RUB
Phew
I DID IT!
YOUR PINK SAVED ME IN THE WARM-UP EXERCISE YOYO.
AND IF I HADN'T HAD YOUR GOOD LUCK CHARM WITH ME DURING THE WRITTEN TEST, I'D BE EVEN MORE IN THE HOLE
DR GLELL REALLY IS LEAVING.
GRIND!
GRIND!
IT SEEMS ONE OF THE REASONS IS HE WANTS ME TO BECOME A FULL FLEDGED PALETTE
SO DON'T HOLD A GRUDGE AGAINST HIM, OKAY?
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY

THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M NOT THE SAME PERSON I WAS A YEAR AGO.
...AS THE OCEAN.
NEXT, GREEN.
ORANGE
PURPLE
WAAAA

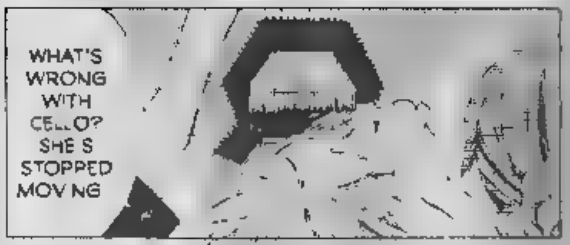
IF I THINK ABOUT HIM, MY FEELINGS WILL BUBBLE OVER AGAIN.
NEXT
COME FORWARD!
PINCH
OWOWO WOWOW!
I CAN'T THINK ABOUT HIM!!
EVEN IF THE FISHERMEN REMIND ME OF DR. GUELL..
FINALLY MY EYELIDS CAN OPEN ALL THE WAY
FIRST, DEEP BREATHING.
BLUE..
HAVE CONFI-DENCE.
KEEP THE IMAGE IN YOUR MIND.

DR. SUBL
COME AND CHEER CELLO ON WITH JE OVER HERE!!
I'M AFRAID F SHE CATCHES SIGHT OF ME SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO FOCUS
Cello my la
I'M STANDING BY
ALTHOUGH I HOPE THE SCHOOL DOCTOR ISN'T NEEDED TODAY
DR GUE
WHAT S AN EMPLOYEE OF THE SCHOOL DOING HIDING AROUND A CORNER ?
EVEN SO THAT'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO SHY AWAY
CELLO'S MOTHER
COME ON T S THE LAST COLOR!
YOU KNOW YOU WANNA SHOUT OUT YOUR SUPPORT!
Cello my la

I CAN DO THIS!
WE'RE DOWN TO
THE FINAL COLOR
RED.
THE SYMBOL OF THIS PUBL C SQUARE IS THE TOP OF THE TOWER.
YOUR TASK IS TO PAINT EACH OF ITS BELLS.

WOBBLE
RED
GO!!
THIS LAST TASK REQUIRES PHYSICAL STRENGTH AS WELL
BE CAUSE YOU HAVE TO CLIMB TO THE TOP!
EXAMINATION ANSWER SHEETS. WITH EITHER GOOD OR BAD MARKS.
SWEET, RIPE FRUIT
HIBISCUS
MY IMAGE OF RED
ANSELIU

SHE DID THAT ONE, TOO!
SHE DID ONE.


WHAT'S WRONG WITH CELLO? SHE S STOPPED MOV NG

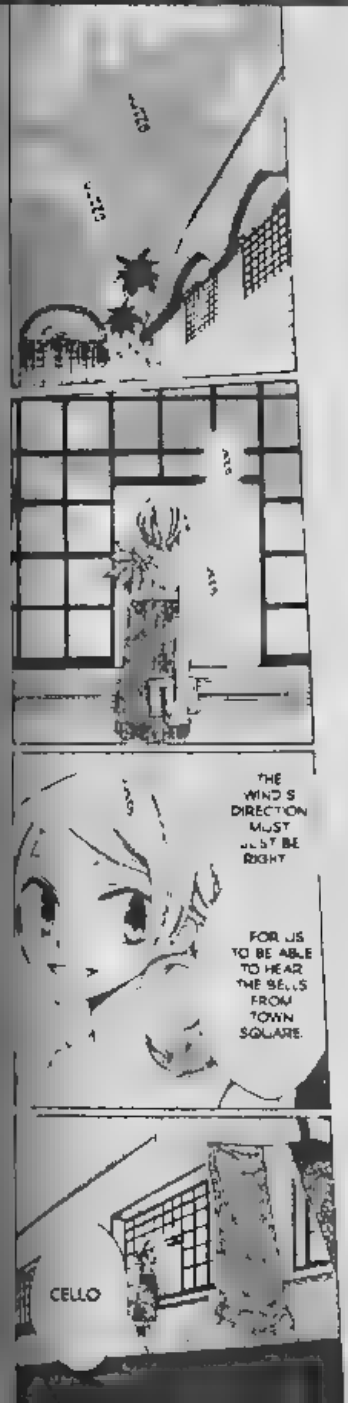
.IS SHE ALL RIGHT?

AM I GOING TO TAKE FRESHMAN YEAR A THIRD TIME ?
CELLO?

OP
M--
MY IMAGE
.OF RED .IS
GO

...AND SEARCH FOR A STRONGER RED.
"WHAT KIND OF WORK DO YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU BECOME A FULL FLEDGED PALETTE?"
SO...
... SMILE ...
...AND DR. GUELL...
WE'LL WAIT ONE MORE MINUTE.
...THE MOST BEAUTIFUL COLOR THEY KNOW.
RUB
OKAY..
I WANT TO SHOW YOYO..
I DON'T WANT TO SHOW THEM...
...THIS RED, FADED WITH TEARS..

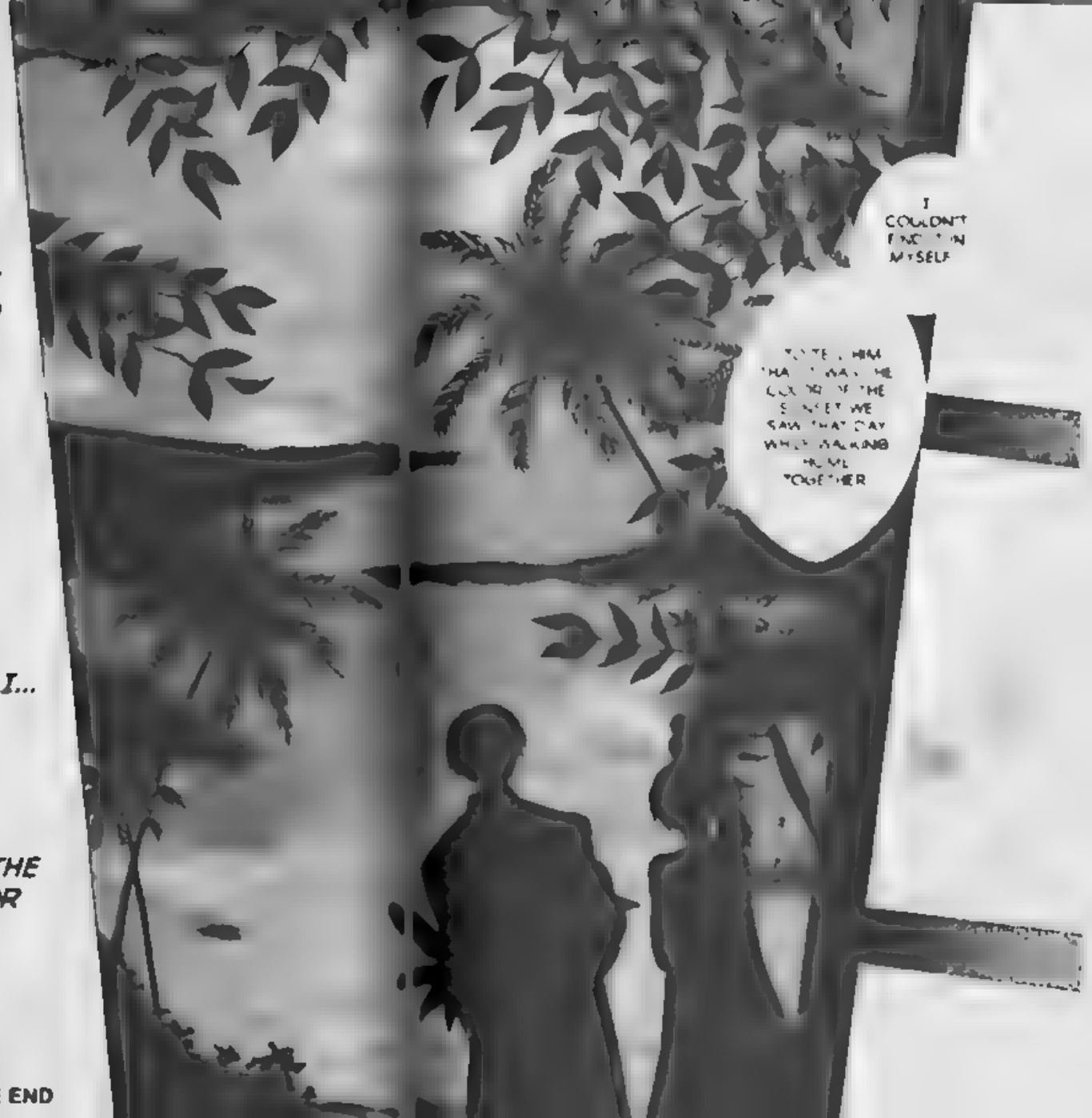
ABOUT YOUR PRACTICAL EXAM.
DR. GUELL
THE PRINC Y PAL
IS DYING TO KNOW WHAT MAGE YOU HAD IN YOUR MIND FOR THAT LAST RED
REALLY?
IT S TOO EMBAR RASSING.
SHOULD I TELL HIM?
HE SAID IT WAS BEAUTIFUL
SO VIBRANT A SHADE THAT T SHOULD HAVE A NAME OF TS OWN
16



THE ANSWER TO HER QUESTION...

CLANG

.. IS NEARBY.



SHORTLY AFTER THAT, THE DOCTOR RECEIVED WORD THAT HE WOULD INDEED BE GOING OVERSEAS...

...AND I...

...COMPLETED THE TWELVE-COLOR COURSE.

The Palette of 12 Secret Colors

しゅうにひそく

十二秘色パレット

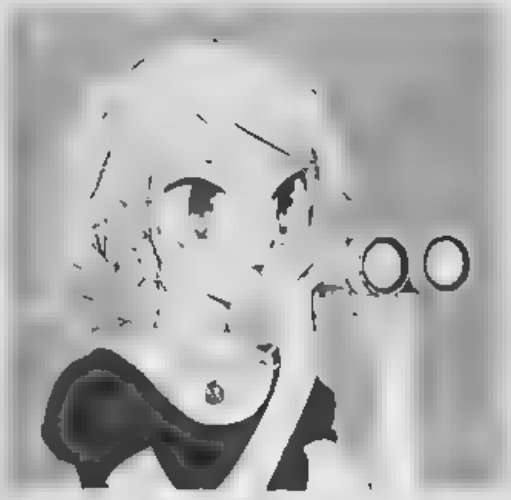
THE FINAL EPISODE

EPISODE 25
PREVIEW CUT

I WAS GOING FOR KIND OF A FRAGILE LOOK HERE FOR THE DOCTOR BUT I CAN'T REALLY SAY HOW I TURNED OUT

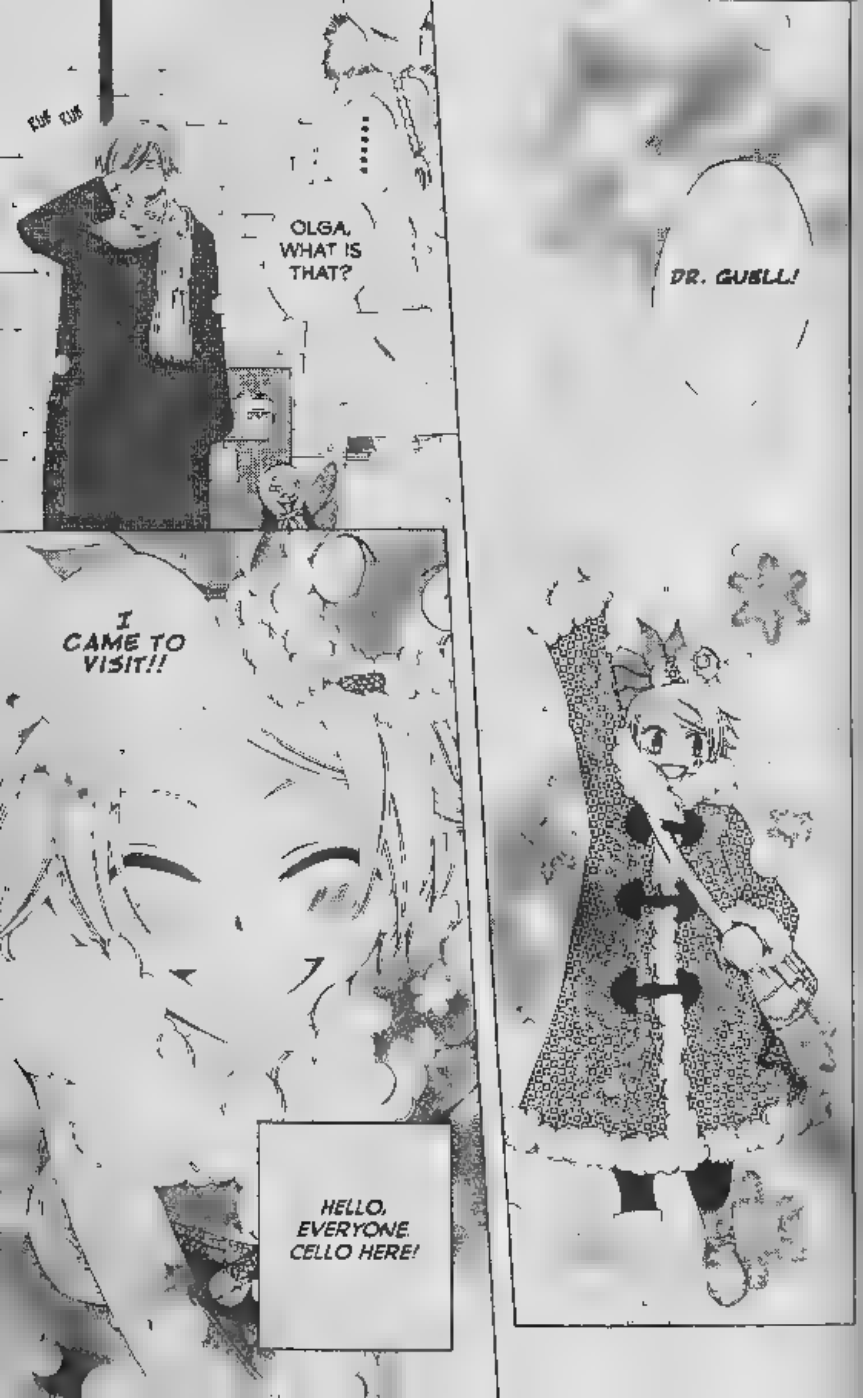
EPISODE 26
PREVIEW CUT

I INCLUDED THE BINOCULARS TO SUGGEST THAT SHE'S SEEING THE DOCTOR OFF AND/OR SEARCHING FOR HIM

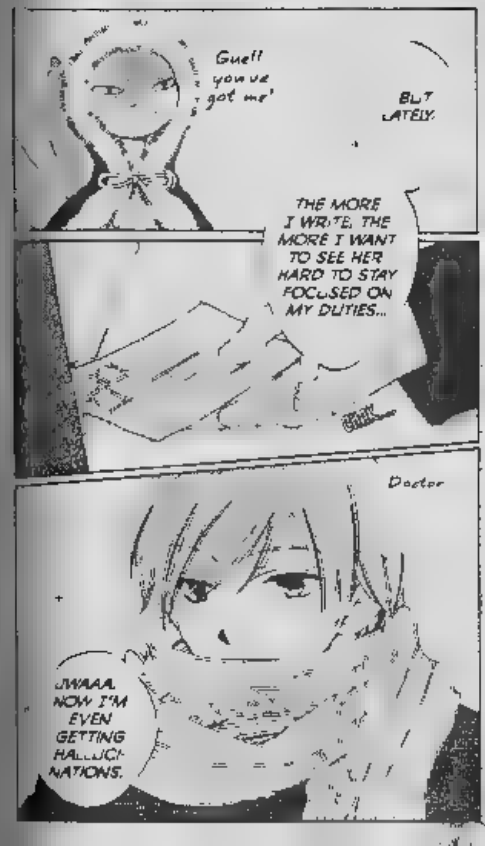


AM I THAT FAR GONE?
EVERY DAY HAS BEEN BUSY FOR ME SINCE I BECAME A THIRD YEAR STUDENT
HOW IS WORK?
WHICH I'M EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN BECAUSE IT'S WINTER THERE ALL YEAR ROUND THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF OPAL
DR GUEL HOW ARE YOU?
I'VE HEARD THAT YOUR DESTINATION THIS TIME IS ENDE- YOUR HOME COUNTRY IN THE NORTH.

GIGA
YO!
NTIC
DOCTOR!
SQUEE
DR. GUELL!
LOOK HOW BIG YOYO'S GOTTEN!
IS THAT REALLY YOYO?
YOU COULD BE GETTING TRICKED HERE I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS.
IMPOSSIBLE.
HE GREW THAT BIG IN TWO YEARS?
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT
I CAN RIDE ON HIS BACK NOW!
CELLO, WAIT
YOYO, TAKE OFF!
CEL
FWOOSH!


KUK KUK
OLGA, WHAT IS THAT?
I CAME TO VISIT!!
HELLO, EVERYONE. CELLO HERE!
DR. GUELL!

CHFF
CHFF
UNFORTUNATELY, I WON'T
BUT MAYBE YOU WON'T BE BACK HERE THIS TIME AROUND EITHER
IT'S ALMOST YOUR BIRTHDAY
TOO BAD YOU WEREN'T IN OPAL FOR YOUR LAST ONE.


Guell! you've got me!
BUT LATELY
THE MORE I WRITE, THE MORE I WANT TO SEE HER HARD TO STAY FOCUSED ON MY DUTIES...
Doctor
JWAAA. NOW I'M EVEN GETTING HALLUCI-NATIONS.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF
CELLO
CELLO ALWAYS ANSWERS MY LETTERS.

I WANT TO DELIVER ON MY PROMISE OF PAYING HIM BACK TWICE OVER
I MISSED YOU.
ME TOO
I SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS.
You've grown this big
I see you in my dreams too
My dreams are a mood or a on the hyperdeck
HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE
BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT, DOCTOR.
FWUMP
FWUMP
FWUMP
EVERYONE KNOW THEIR ROOM ASSIGNMENTS?
FWUMP

YOU DIDN'T TELL ME
YOU WERE COMING.
Oh, Dr. Gud! Long time no see
ONLY THE TOP STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE THIRD-YEAR SENIOR TOUR OF OTHER CULTURES.
AS IT HAPPENS, THIS YEAR'S DESTINATION IS ENDE
EVER SINCE YOU LEFT, I'VE HAD MY NOSE TO THE GRINDSTONE!
CHUCKLE
OR I SHOULD ASK, JUST WHEN DID YOUR GRADES GET GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU TO BE CHOSEN FOR THE SENIOR TRIP ?
AND I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING BECAUSE I WANTED TO SEE THE LOOK OF SURPRISE ON YOUR FACE.
THIS YEAR, FOR SURE
YOU ONCE TOLD ME YOU'D TAKE ME HERE SOMEDAY BUT I KIND OF JUMPED THE GUN.
ARE YOU SURPRISED?
IT'S ALMOST THE DOCTOR'S BIRTHDAY.
YES.

BLACKIE
SINCE BLACKIE KNOWS THE WORLD OUTSIDE OF OPAL, HE SEES THINGS IN A BROADER PERSPECTIVE THAN THE OTHER BIRDS. ALTHOUGH I DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE A COOL SCENE DEMONSTRATING THIS, THE RELATIONSHIP OF PARTNERS FENNE-KUN AND BLACKIE IS LIKE TWO GOOD MALE BUDDIES. SO WHEN BLACKIE RIDES ON FENNE-KUN'S SHOULDERS, IT'S NOT OUT OF LOVE FOR HIS PARTNER BUT BECAUSE IT'S EASIER THAN WALKING.

I CALL THOSE DECORATIVE THINGS ON TOP OF BLACKIE'S HEAD "BONBONS."

FOO...

I KNOW.

I THINK I'LL TRY SOMETHING

SNOW MAKES A GOOD CANVAS.

IT DOES!

I'M GONNA DO IT, TOO!

ME TOO!

ME TOO!

AH! WHAT IS THIS?

WE'RE STAYING AT THE SAME LODGE.

...AND THEN YOU'VE GOT FREE TIME UNTIL LUNCH.

TAKE YOUR LUGGAGE TO YOUR ROOM...

BUZZ

BUZZ

CZECH

IT SURE IS WHITE.

IT SEEMS THEY WON A TRIP TO THE NORTH IN A DRAWING THAT WAS HELD IN TOWN. (AND BECAUSE THIS IS THE LAST EPISODE)

THE MORE THE MERRIER DON'T YOU THINK?

CELLO, DID YOU BRING YOUR CAMERA?

I SEE PEOPLE HERE WHO AREN'T STUDENTS...

FOOL

THIS S SNOW..!

ALL THIS WHITE MAKES ME WANT TO PAINT.

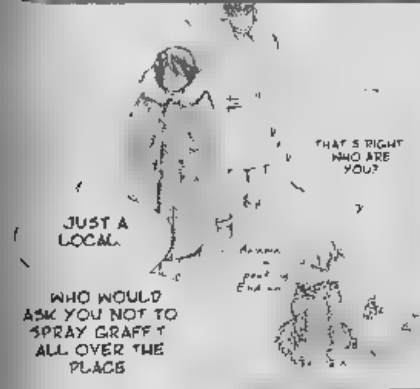
EVEN MY BREATH IS WHITE

DR GUELL WAS BORN IN THIS COUNTRY

WELL, DON'T TALK LIKE WE'RE JUVENILE DELINQUENTS
S THERE SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THIS VACANT PLOT?
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? FENNE SPEAKS ENDIAN BETTER THAN ANY OF US.
BUT HE'S ALSO GOT THE MOST STANDOFFISH PERSONALITY

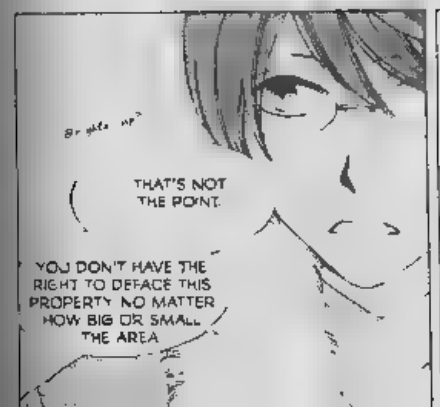
ANYWAY, LET'S CALM DOWN
I AM CALM YOU'RE THE ONES WHO HAVE A PROBLEM...
YOU WITH YOUR WEIRD BIRDS


THAT'S RIGHT WHO ARE YOU?
JUST A LOCAL.
WHO WOULD ASK YOU NOT TO SPRAY GRAFFITI ALL OVER THE PLACE

YOU'RE RUINING THE SNOW

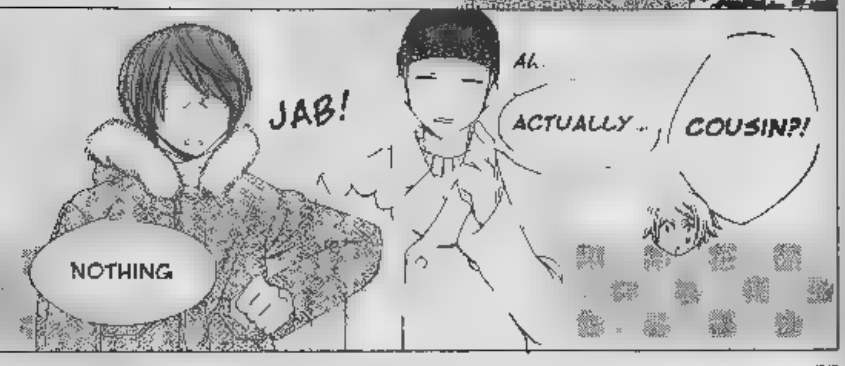
"RUINING THE SNOW"?
UM.

LOOK AT THIS MESS..
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO CAME FROM THAT SOUTHERN ISLAND THE PALETTES?


THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO DEFACE THIS PROPERTY NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL THE AREA

THERE'S WHITE EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL IF WE BRIGHTEN UP ONE SMALL AREA?

GUELL...
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
JOSHUA
HE'S MY COUSIN.
YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?!


JAB!
NOTHING
AH.
ACTUALLY..
COUSIN?!

WE WERE JUST DOING A LITTLE PAINTING ON THE SNOW AND THEY ACCUSED US OF DESTROYING PROPERTY
E-E?
WERE YOU PICKING A FIGHT?
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO TURNED WHAT I SAID INTO AN ARGUMENT
HE'S FLUENT! NATURAL! BUT

COO!
WEIRD BIRDS ...?

JOSHUA
EH?
UH-OH.
IT LOOKS THE KIDS ARE HAVING TROUBLE WITH A COUPLE OF THE LOCAL TEENAGERS.
LOOK, OVER THERE.

10

THEO

MY IMAGE OF THEO IS A YOUNG FATHER WHO USED TO BE A JUVENILE DELINQUENT BUT IN THOSE DAYS WHEN HE WAS A LITTLE ASTRAY THEO MET LEO'S MOM AND HER PARENTS. THEO STRAIGHTENED OUT HIS ACT AND WAS ADOPTED INTO THE FAMILY OF HIS BRIDE IN MY EARLY NOTES ON THEO I WROTE THAT HE LOVES SHRIMP PRAWNS IS THAT RIGHT?

I MEAN OF COURSE SINCE YOU LEFT HERE OVER TEN YEARS AGO, BUT

NEVER MIND SEE YA

DID I CATCH A CUTTING TONE IN THE WAY HE SAID THAT?

Okay

HE'S A LITTLE DIFFICULT BUT NOT REALLY A BAD PERSON SO DON'T TAKE ANYTHING HE SAYS PERSONALLY

HE'S IGNORING THE REMARK?

RELUCTANT

.....

Hm

OKAY, I WASN'T HERE, SO I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WENT DOWN BUT GIVE THESE GUYS A LITTLE SLACK

THEY ALL GREW UP IN A SOUTHERN COUNTRY, SO SNOW IS NEW TO THEM

I BROUGHT OLGA WITH ME, TOO

ON OPAL THESE BIRDS ARE CONSIDERED TREASURES.

YOU MADE FUN OF THE BIRDS? THAT'S NOT NICE

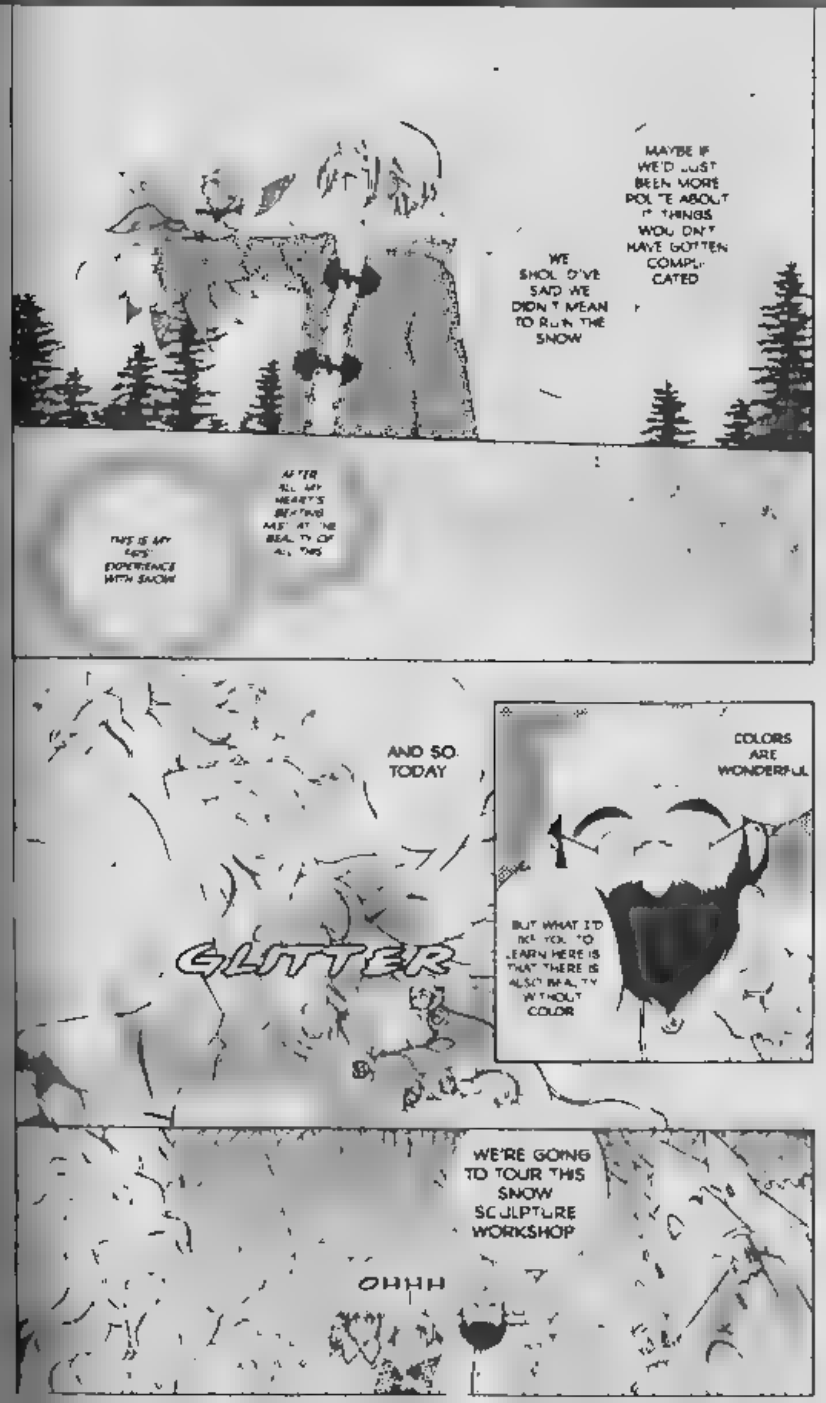
AND DON'T MAKE FUN OF OUR BIRDS

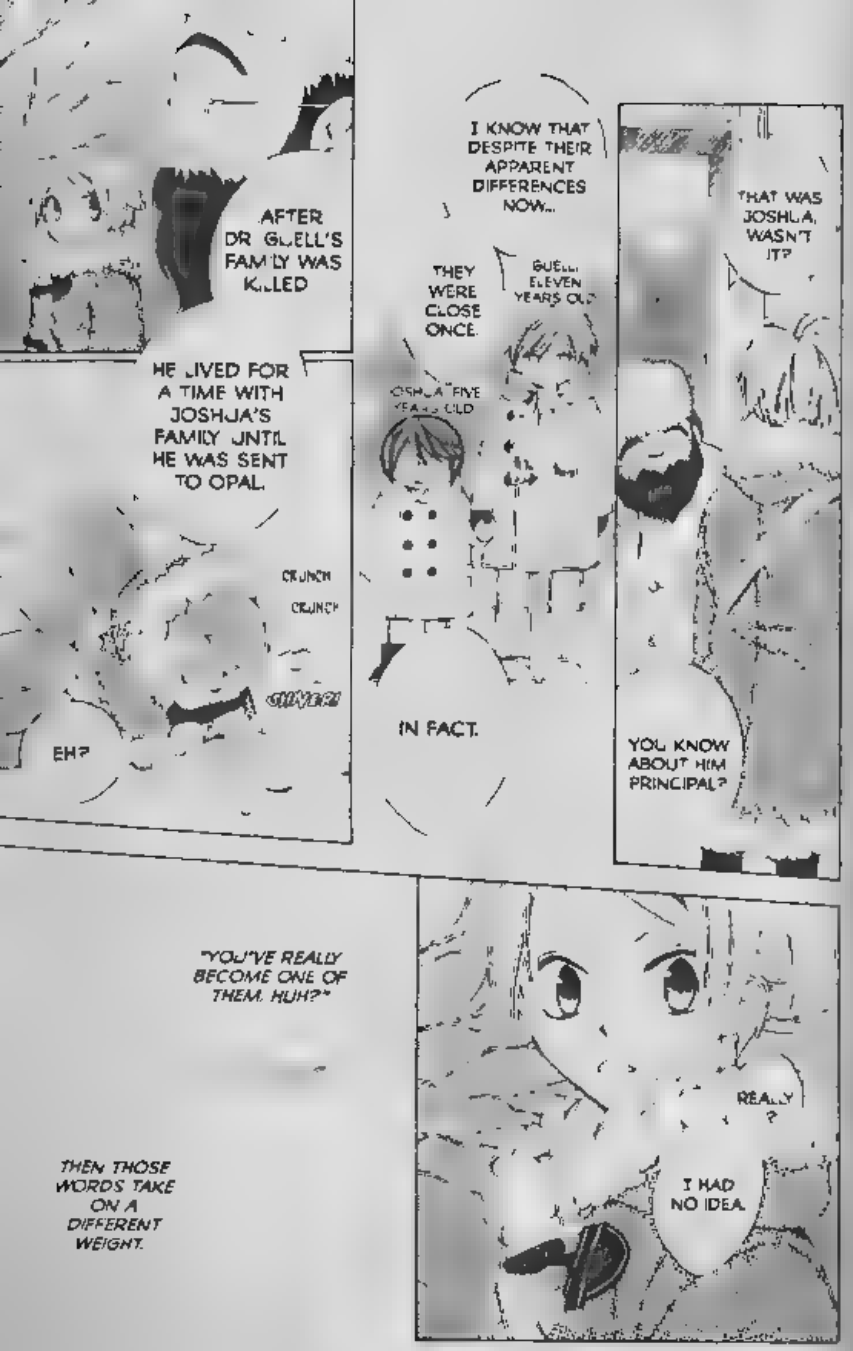
YEAH!!

ARE THE BIRDS REALLY THAT INDISPENSABLE?!

YOU'VE REALLY BECOME ONE OF THEM, HUH?

I BROUGHT A DICTIONARY
OBSERVE CAREFULLY
SO I CAN ASK A LOT OF
THE ARTISANS APPEAR TO BE WILLING TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE
THANK YOU FOR COMING.
THAT'S.
SO YOU'RE A SNOW SCULPTOR, TOO
JOSHUA OVER HERE!
BUZZ
I KNOW
DR GUELL'S COUSIN AGAIN!


MAYBE IF WE'D JUST BEEN MORE POLITE ABOUT IT THINGS WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN COMPLICATED
WE SHOULD'VE SAID WE DIDN'T MEAN TO RUIN THE SNOW
AFTER ALL MY HEART'S BEEN MISSING THE BEAUTY OF ALL THIS
THIS IS MY FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH SNOW
AND SO TODAY
GLITTER
COLORS ARE WONDERFUL
BUT WHAT I'D LIKE YOU TO LEARN HERE IS THAT THERE IS ALSO BEAUTY WITHOUT COLOR
WE'RE GOING TO TOUR THIS SNOW SCULPTURE WORKSHOP
OHHH


AFTER DR GUELL'S FAMILY WAS KILLED
HE LIVED FOR A TIME WITH JOSHUA'S FAMILY UNTIL HE WAS SENT TO OPAL.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
EH?
I KNOW THAT DESPITE THEIR APPARENT DIFFERENCES NOW...
THEY WERE CLOSE ONCE.
GUELL ELEVEN YEARS OLD
JOSHUA FIVE YEARS OLD
IN FACT.
THAT WAS JOSHUA, WASN'T IT?
YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM PRINCIPAL?
"YOU'VE REALLY BECOME ONE OF THEM, HUH?"
REALLY ?
I HAD NO IDEA.
THEN THOSE WORDS TAKE ON A DIFFERENT WEIGHT.

I WANT TO CLEAR IT OUR MISUNDERSTANDING
AND FORGET ABOUT BEFORE
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
ESPECIALLY SINCE IT SEEMS IT HAVE CAUSED PROBLEMS BETWEEN YOU AND THE DOCTOR
DOCTOR? YOU MEAN GUELL?
IS THAT WHY YOU WERE SO PERSNICKETY ABOUT PRESERVING THE WHITENESS OF THE SNOW?
WE DIDN'T MEAN TO RUIN IT BEFORE
I'M NOT A SCULPTOR YET STILL AN APPRENTICE
ANYWAY LIKE I SAID FORGET ABOUT IT
CRUNCH
YOU NEEDN'T CONCERN YOURSELF ABOUT THAT
WHAT, ARE YOU INLOVE WITH GUELL?
EMBARRASSED

IF YOU DON'T COVER UP YOUR FEATHERS WILL TURN BRITTLE
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
IT'S FREEZING!
IT GETS EVEN COLDER WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN
YOU SHOULD'VE STAYED BACK AT THE LODGE YOYO
SO I WANT TO TAKE A LOOK AT HIS OLD HOUSE AND SCHOOL STUFF LIKE THAT
THE PRINCIPAL TOLD ME
DR GUELL IS ACTUALLY FROM THIS TOWN.
WE'RE ALMOST THERE YOYO
SOON AS WE TURN THIS CORNER
CRUNCH
I'D PREFER TO TOUR THE DOCTOR'S CHILDHOOD STOMPING GROUNDS WITH HIM.
BUT IT MIGHT BE TRAUMATIC FOR HIM. SO..

CELLO. ARE YOU WORKING ON TODAY'S REPORT?
Hmm
CERTAINLY I THINK HE'S AS MUCH OF AN OPALITE AS ANYONE WHO LIVES THERE
YEAH.
BUT THE DOCTOR'S ALSO GOT A NORTHERN COUNTRY ELEMENT MIXED IN, TOO
AND IF SOMETHING HAPPENS REPORT IT TO ME
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN DR GUELL FOR A LONG TIME
SO BE SURE TO MAKE THE MOST OF IT!
I HEARD WE'RE HAVING DINNER WITH THE EXPEDITION PEOPLE TONIGHT
KIND OF A SMALL PARTY
KA-CHA
SEE YOU LATER.
REALLY?
I'm gonna be there too
THE DOCTOR FROM ENDE
WE'VE STILL GOT TIME THOUGH. SO I'M GONNA TALK A WALK

SIDE STORY PALM TREES

THESE ONLY APPEAR BRIEFLY IN THE FINAL EPISODE BUT WITHOUT PALM TREES THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY PALETTES.

I WOULD DILIGENTLY DRAW THEIR DENSE LEAVES MAINLY WITH A G PEN (ED NOTE A SPECIFIC TYPE OF INK PEN NIB) I THINK I WAS BEST AT DRAWING PALM TREES THAT HAD TWENTY FRONDS I'M SURE EVERYONE READING THIS AT HOME RIGHT NOW IS GOING "NO ONE LOOKS AT THE TREES!"

See you at the end of the book

BUZZ

BUZZ

BUZZ

BLANCE BLANCE

BUZZ

BLANCE

HOP

HOP

HOP

IT'S GONE...

CHFF

, WE'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THE HOUSE WHERE DR GJELL WAS BORN'

YOU'VE GOT FROSTBITE
WE'D BETTER WARM YOU UP FAST

ER
Mm
LUKE-WARM PERFECT

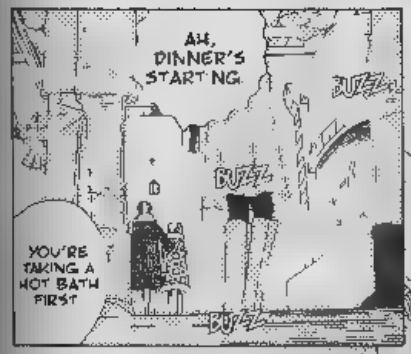
PLOOP...

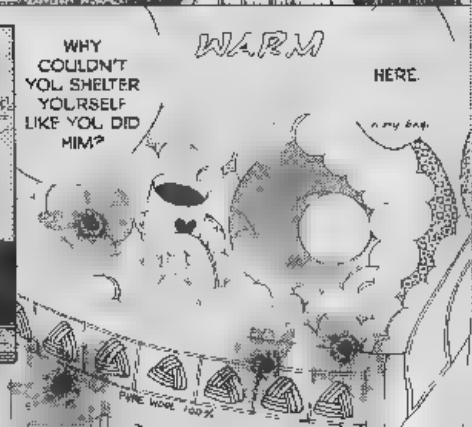
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO SEE HOW HOT THE WATER IS, DOCTOR?
AFTER BEING OUTSIDE SO LONG YOUR PHYSICAL SENSATIONS ARE OUT OF WHACK
SO YOU NEED SOMEONE ELSE TO CHECK THE TEMPERATURE
I've got a cam wrapped around my fan.

I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE MY EARS, BUT. CELLO?!
AH!
D-DR GUELL...

HOP
HOP
HOP!
COLD
COLD

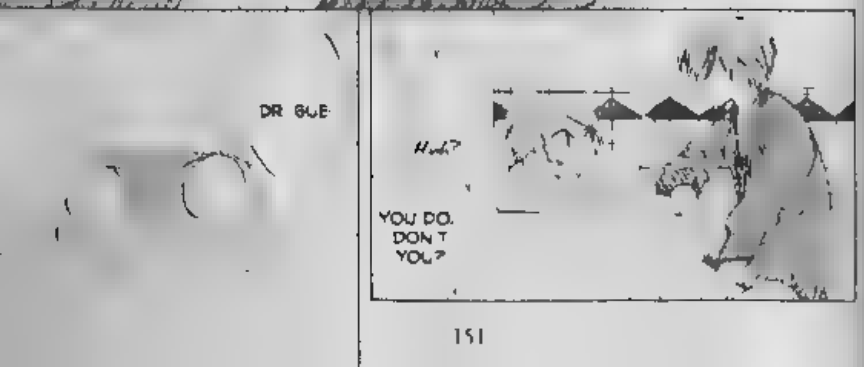
I WAS WANDERING AROUND AND BEFORE I KNEW IT
WHERE'S YOYO?
SHIVER
SHIVER
SLAM
WHAT WERE YOU DOING?! YOU WOULD'VE DIED OUT THERE

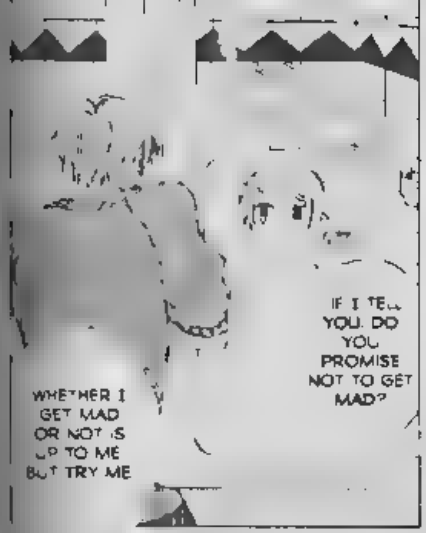

AH, DINNER'S STARTING.
BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ
YOU'RE TAKING A HOT BATH FIRST

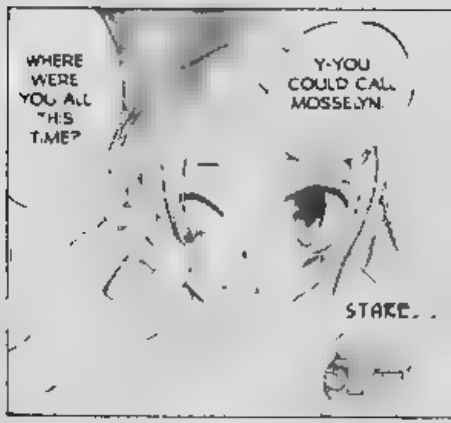

WHY COULDN'T YOU SHELTER YOURSELF LIKE YOU DID MIM?
WARM
HERE.
in my bag.
PURE WOOL 100%

NO YOU'RE DOING QUITE WELL AS AN OPALITE
UNLESS A PUREBLOOD OPALITE LIKE YOURSELF THINKS I STILL HAVE A WAYS TO GO?

YOU LOVE IT HERE DOCTOR
ENDE IS THE COUNTRY WHERE I WAS BORN.
BUT I'VE BEEN LIVING IN OPAL A LOT LONGER THAN I'VE LIVED HERE
THIS ISN'T THE PLACE FOR ME
BUT.


DR SUE
Huh?
YOU DO. DON'T YOU?

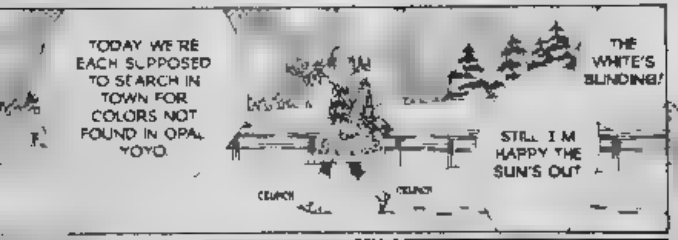

WHETHER I GET MAD OR NOT IS UP TO ME BUT TRY ME
IF I TELL YOU. DO YOU PROMISE NOT TO GET MAD?


WHERE WERE YOU ALL THIS TIME?
Y-YOU COULD CALL MOSSELYN.
STARE. .

IT'S GONE
AA
ACTUALLY I SECRETLY WENT TO SEE YOUR FAMILY'S HOUSE

WHEN HE SAID THAT YOU'D BECOME "ONE OF THEM"
WHY ? IT'S TRUE
IN THE END I DIDN'T GET TO SEE HIM
AND EVEN IF I HAD I DON'T KNOW THAT IT WOULD'VE SOLVED ANYTHING
BUT IT JUST BOTHERED ME
AND AFTER THAT I WENT TO THE WORKSHOP TO MEET JOSHUA
JOSHUA?

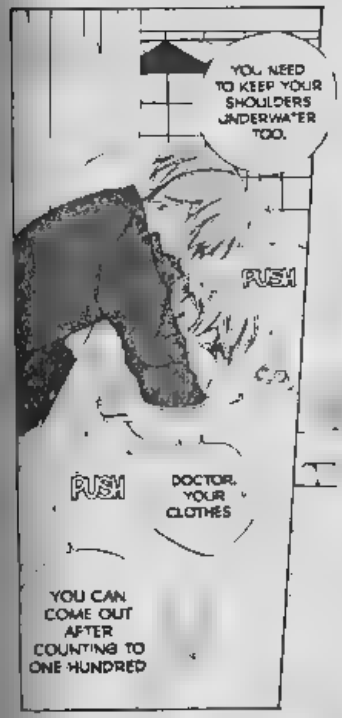
Pierre
WHY CHAIN HER UP?
BECAUSE SHE'S ACTING SCARY CRAZY FOR SOME REASON
BUZZ
BUZZ
CELLOOO
SEAL
OOO!


TODAY WE'RE EACH SUPPOSED TO SEARCH IN TOWN FOR COLORS NOT FOUND IN OPAL YOYO
THE WHITE'S BLINDING!
STILL I'M HAPPY THE SUN'S OUT
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

I'LL WALK WITH YOU PART OF THE WAY
CELLO, WAIT UP
I'VE GOT BUSINESS IN TOWN.
CRUNCH CRUNCH

Pierre
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
I WAS JUST WONDERING WHAT I'D DO IF WE WERE BEING FOLLOWED

IT'LL BE A LITTLE BIT LIKE A DATE.
Hehehah


YOU NEED TO KEEP YOUR SHOULDERS UNDERWATER TOO.
PUSH
PUSH
DOCTOR, YOUR CLOTHES
YOU CAN COME OUT AFTER COUNTING TO ONE HUNDRED

Hara
SPLASH

RIP!
SEE YOU LATER

HE DOES LOVE THIS COUNTRY

CRUNCH
CRUNCH
YOU'RE HEADING AWAY FROM THE WORKSHOP
CRUNCH
THAT'S CAUSE WE'RE GOING TO THE LAKE...
..TO CUT OUT SECTIONS OF ICE THAT CAN BE USED FOR THE STATUES
UH-HUH
ICE?!
CAN I SEE?
YEAH I GUESS
SUIT YOURSELF
THEY'RE TRYING TO BE NICE TO HER.. ?

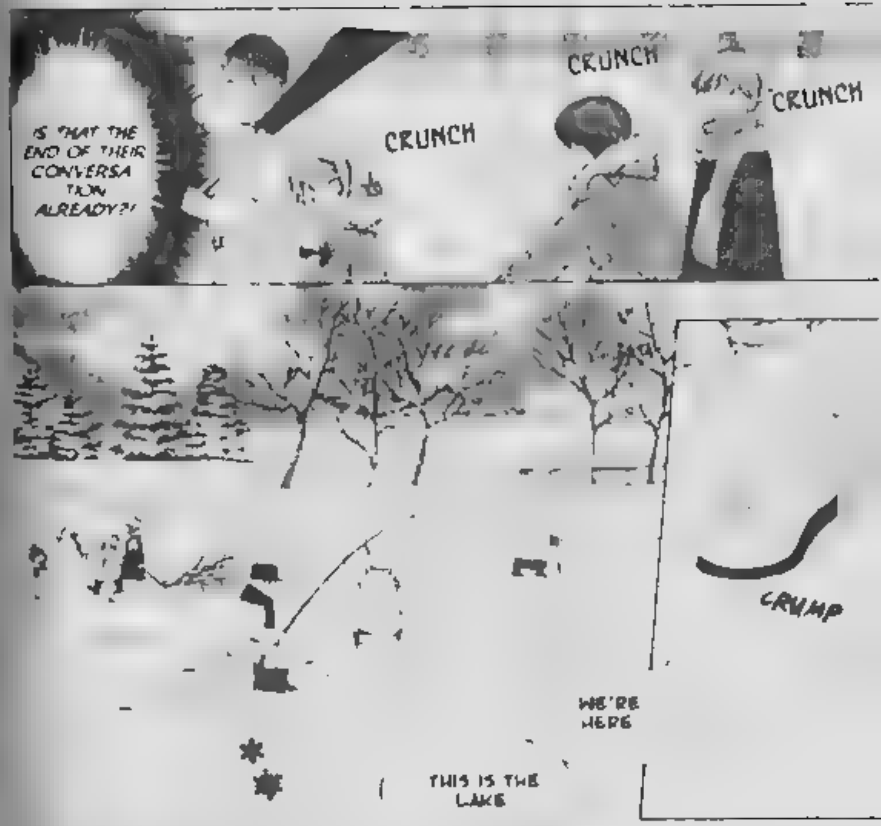
HUH...
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
Hmm
IT ONLY FEELS LIKE IT
..WHAT, ARE YOU ON A DATE?

Phew
JUST TO BE SAFE
WHY AM I IMPRISONED?
SEAL
SEAL
Yeah
THANKS TO THE BATH, LAST NIGHT'S FROZEN FINGERS ARE FINE TODAY..
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
IS YOUR FROSTBITE, OKAY?

GOOD MORNING, JOSHUA
ARE YOU WORKING?
AH!

THAT GIRL WAS CONCERNED ABOUT YOU YESTERDAY
SHE LOVES YOU DOESN'T SHE?
IT'S BECAUSE I'M ONE OF THEM

OKAY
WELL, CELLO
I'M OFF
EH?
IT JUST SEEMS LIKE
GOT THAT RIGHT

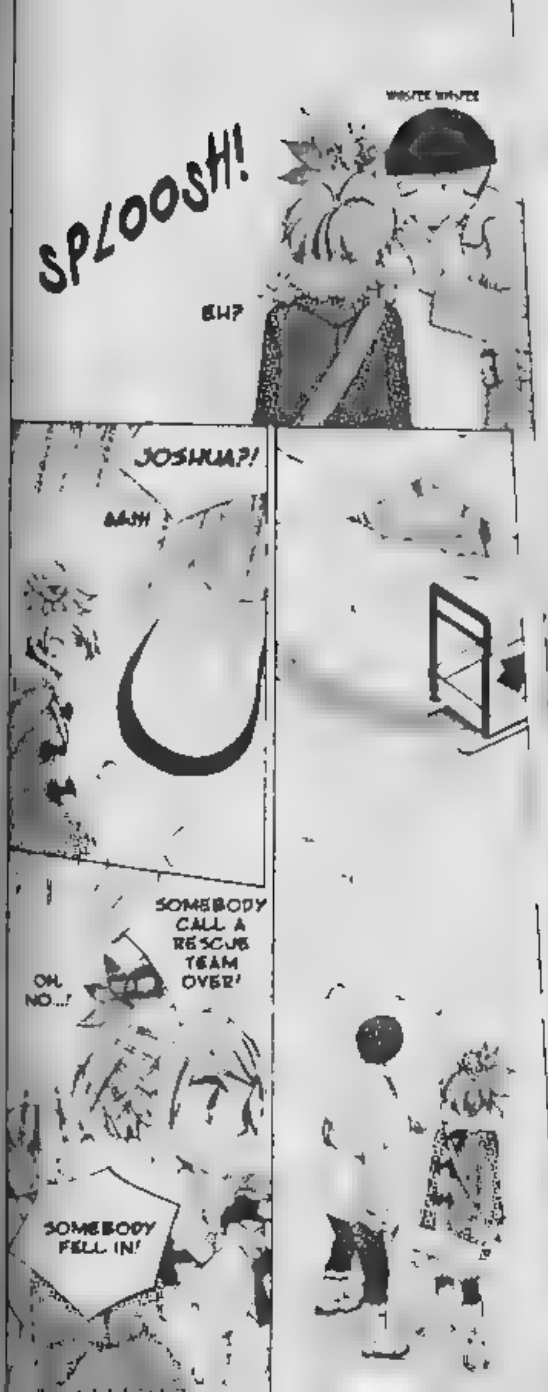

IS THAT THE END OF THEIR CONVERSATION ALREADY?!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUMP
WE'RE HERE
THIS IS THE LAKE

CELLO, TRY DIGGING THROUGH THE SNOW OVER THERE
IS IT ALWAYS THIS WHITE?
PEOPLE FISH IN A FIELD OF SNOW?

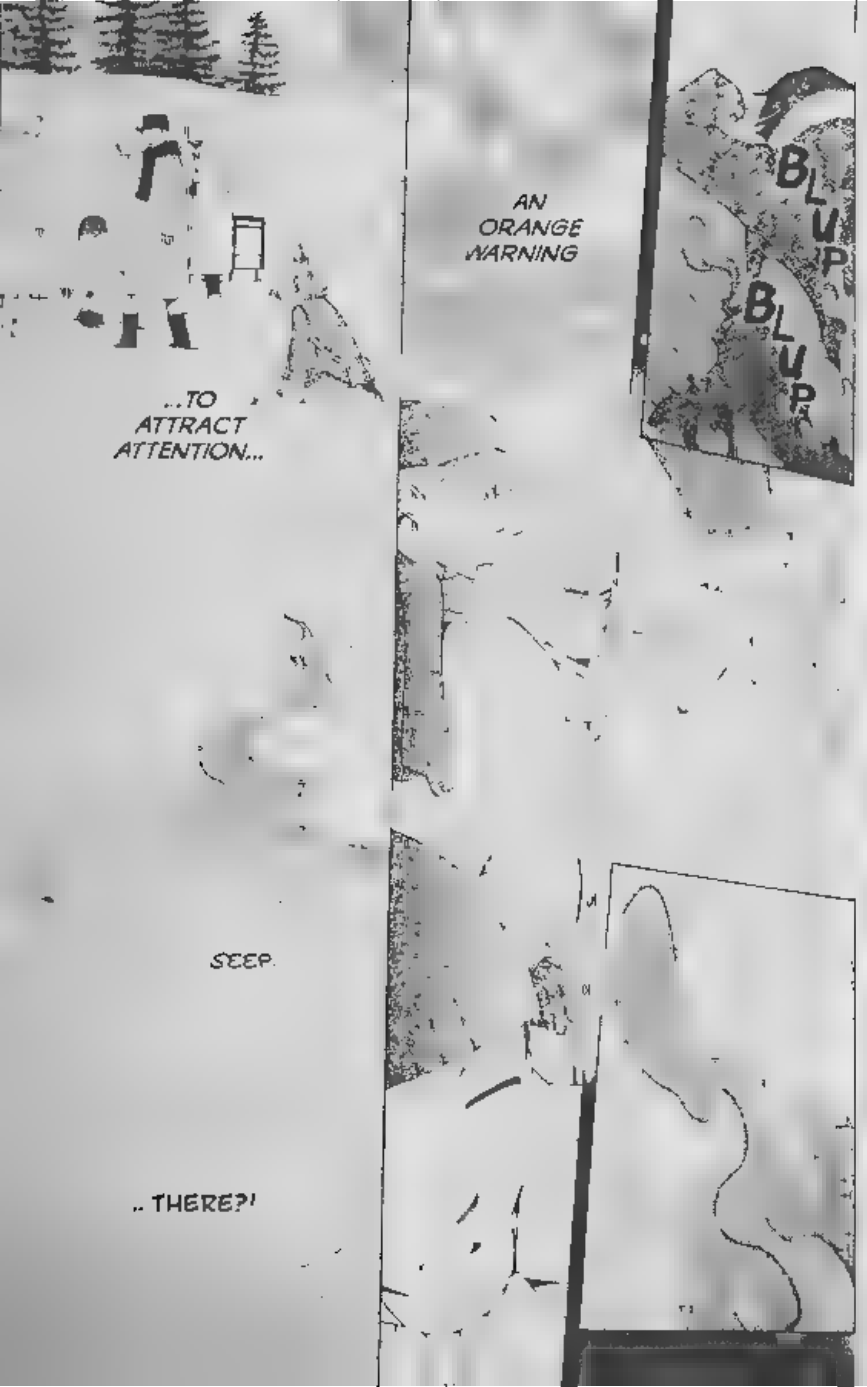
OH, THAT WAS JUST
THEN PAINTING THE SNOW WITH OUR SECRET COLORS REALLY WAS A MAJOR SCREW UP
YOU'RE STILL ANGRY ABOUT IT, AREN'T YOU?
JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME...
WHAK
SHOVE
OW!
YOU DO IT OVER THERE
SILENTLY!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT
TINK!
HIS FIRST JOB?
HE'S TAKING ON U.S FIRST JOB RIGHT NOW
TRS

WHY ARE YOU MARKING THE SNOW?
I SEE
IT MEANS "BE CAREFUL IN THIS AREA"
IT WOULDN'T DO TO HAVE SOMEONE FALL THROUGH A HOLE IN THE ICE WOULD IT?
THEIR ARGUMENT HAS BEEN CLEARLY DEFINED. NOT SOLVED.
WHICH IS AS I SHOULD BE
THAT BRIGHT ORANGE COLOR SURE STANDS OUT
IT HAS TO BE SINCE THE WHITE OF SNOW IS RESERVED BY NATURE

BLOOP
BLOOP
WHERE'S THE HOLE ?!
WHITE EVERYWHERE
I DON'T KNOW THE WAY OUT!!
BLUP!


SPLOOSH!
BLIP
JOSHUA?!
SOMEBODY CALL A RESCUE TEAM OVER!
OH NO...!
SOMEBODY FELL IN!

THE COMMISSION IS FROM HIS PARENTS.
KRAK

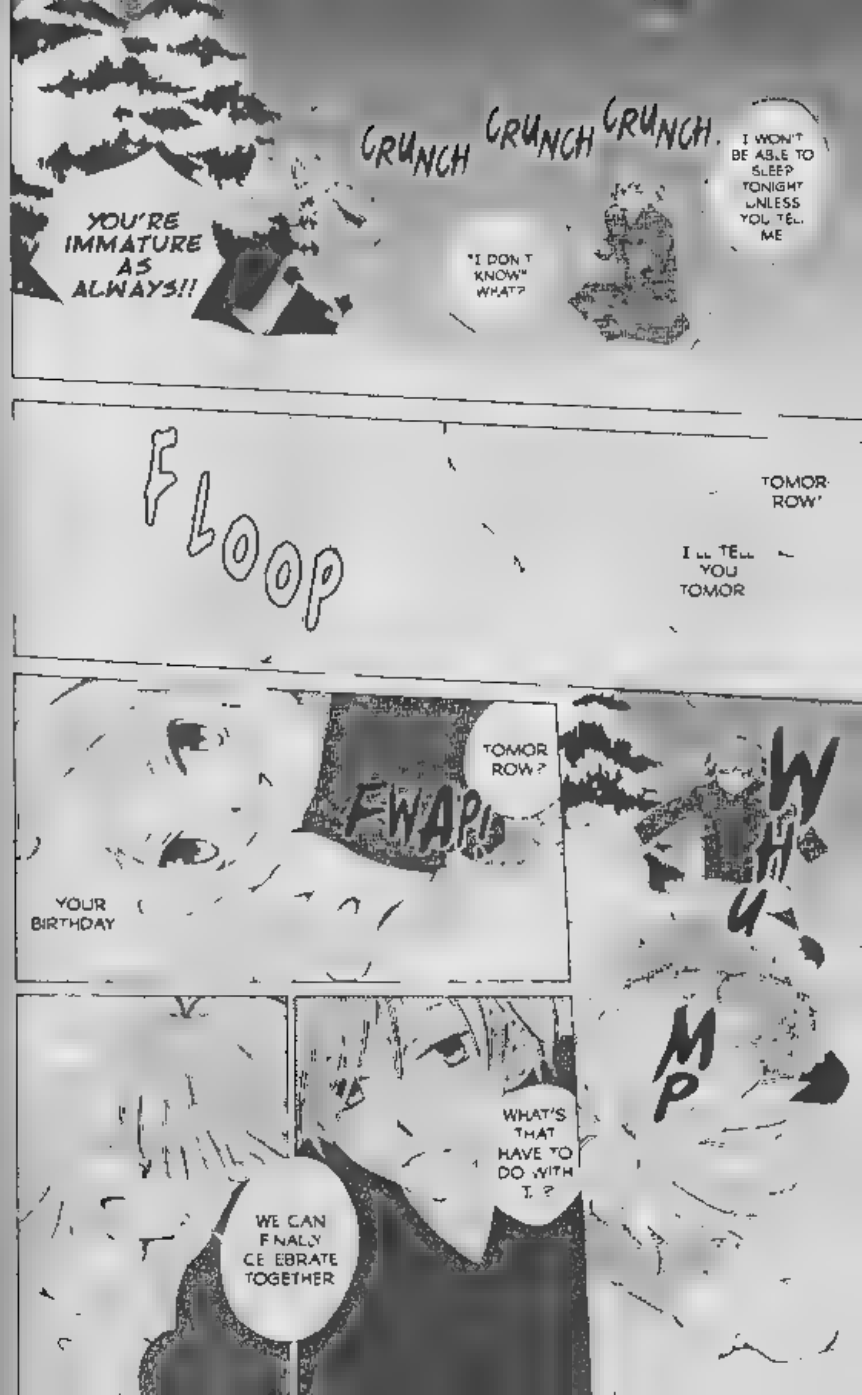

...TO ATTRACT ATTENTION...
AN ORANGE WARNING
BLUP
BLUP
SEEP
.. THERE?!

JOSHUA!
HE'S NOT COMING UP..
THIS IS BAD.
HAS HE LOST SIGHT OF THE HOLE?!
CHFF
WHAT IS SHE ?

HE SEEMED FINE BY THE TIME I LEFT HIM.
GOOD
I WAS SHOCKED WHEN I HEARD HE FELL IN THE LAKE.
AND YOU SAVED HIM?
I PLAYED A PART WITH THE SECRET COLORS.
NOW JOSHUA IS IN THE DEBT OF PALETTES
..EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMS HE DOESN'T CARE FOR THE SECRET COLORS
I DON'T KNOW.
THANK YOU.
SNUGGLE
SNUGGLE
NOT AT ALL.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CELLO, YOU DON'T START SAYING SOMETHING AND SUDDENLY CHANGE YOUR MIND
I CAN'T TELL YOU TODAY
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT?
FINISH
NEVER MIND.

...CAN BE DANGEROUS AS WELL AS BEAUTIFUL..
SNOW
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
PULL HIM UP!
WAAA
..BUT EVEN SO..
I DON'T THINK I COULD HATE IT.
When
I SEE
IF YOU WERE WONDERING, JOSHUA WAS JUST RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL.
SO YOU CAN RELAX
DR GUELL!
FOO..
WAA!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

I DON'T NEED ANYTHING.
..AS LONG AS YOU'RE WITH ME
THIS YEAR FOR SURE I'M GONNA PAY YOU BACK TWOFOLD FOR MY BIRTHDAY THAT TIME


YOU'RE IMMATURE AS ALWAYS!!
CRUNCH CRUNCH CRUNCH.
"I DON'T KNOW" WHAT?
I WON'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP TONIGHT UNLESS YOU TELL ME
FLOOP
TOMOR ROW'
I'LL TELL YOU TOMOR
FWAP!
TOMOR ROW?
YOUR BIRTHDAY
WHU MP
WHAT'S THAT HAVE TO DO WITH I ?
WE CAN FINALLY CELEBRATE TOGETHER

FOR AS LONG AS YOU WANT..

THERE HAVE TO BE OTHER THINGS THAT YOU WANT..

GO AHEAD

HE DOESN'T NEED ANY-THING, HE SAYS..

LIAR

I WAS SUPPOSED TO MAKE THIS SECRETLY
GUELL
WHEN I SAID "YOU'VE BECOME ONE OF THEM"
WHAT I REALLY MEANT WAS "DON'T FORGET ABOUT US."
I'M SORRY I PICKED A QUARREL WITH YOU
I NEVER HAVE
GOOD
AT FIRST THE PLAN WAS TO MAKE THE CAKE ALL WHITE BUT HE SAID HE CHANGED HIS MIND
AFTER GELLO SAVED US LIFE HE THOUGHT HE'D GIVE IT A LITTLE MORE COLOR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

SOMEDAY THIS PALETTE IS GOING TO CROSS THE SEA...
...AND FROM AN INFINITE AMOUNT OF COLORS...
...MASTER THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ONE BY ONE

BOTH...
...ARE BEAUTIFUL.

PALETTE OF 12 SECRET COLORS THE END

THE FINAL CHAPTER PREVIEW CUT

I TRIED TO MAKE IT FEEL LIKE AN ENDING.
IN 27 EPISODES, THIS WAS THE FIRST (AND LAST) PREVIEW CUT THAT HAD CELLO AND THE DOCTOR TOGETHER.

NIGHT VIEW (WHERE?)
RESTAURANT
EH?
DRESSED UP GUELL WEARING A SUIT.
CELLO, CLOSE YOUR EYES A MINUTE.
IF IT WERE FOR HER HAND.
THE CORNER-STONE OF HIS PRESENTS IS A RING...
IT MIGHT GO LIKE THIS, BUT...
DOCTOR. IS THIS..?
BUT HE WANTS TO PUT IT ON HER TOE.
BUT HE WANTS TO GIVE IT TO HER TOMOR-ROW.
IF POSSIBLE, FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.
AND SO
GYAAA!
Cello, close your eyes a minute
RUSTLE RUSTLE
..WHEN IT COMES TO THE FEET, THE LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY RISES.

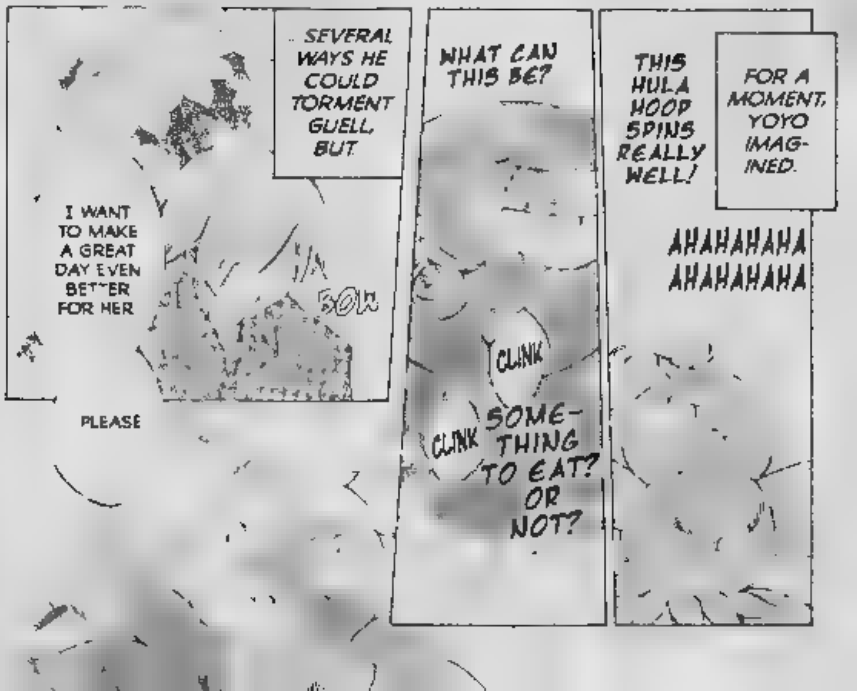
BONUS MANGA

TALE OF A TOE RING

TOMORROW IS A DAY THAT SHOULD BE COMMEMO-RATED.
CELLO'S GRADUATING.
AND GETTING HER PALETTE'S LICENSE.
HE'S PREPARED A MOUNTAIN OF EVERY CONCEIVABLE PRESENT
..BUT HE WANTS TO SURPRISE HER..
..AS MUCH AS SHE DID HIM WHEN CELEBRATING HIS BIRTHDAY IN ENDE.
BUT GUELL, WHO'S BACK ON THE ISLAND, IS TROUBLED.

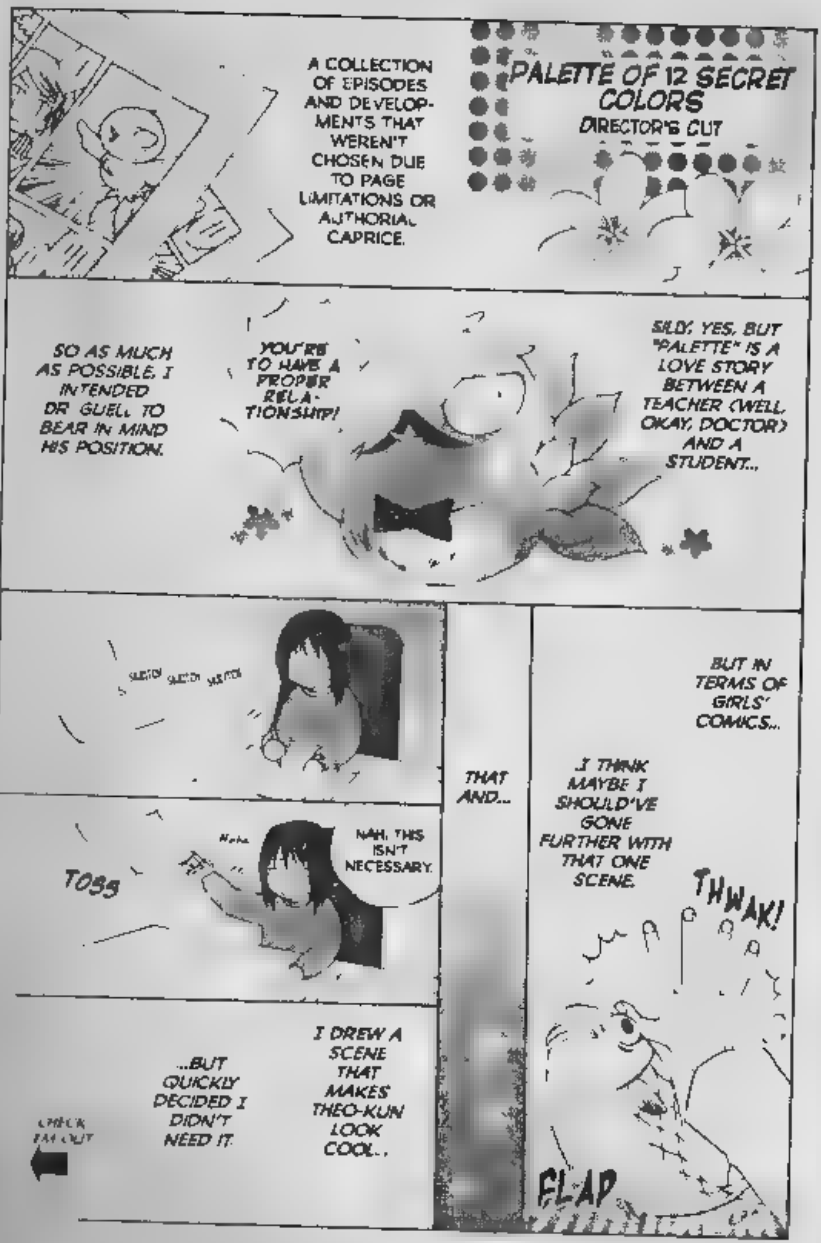
MMM
YOYO
DOCTOR
I'M FINALLY GRADUATING
" A GREAT DAY EVEN BETTER FOR HER."

YOYO, SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, BUT COULD YOU ?
...HE TRIED TO GET SOME COOPERATION.


I WANT TO MAKE A GREAT DAY EVEN BETTER FOR HER
PLEASE
...SEVERAL WAYS HE COULD TORMENT GUELL, BUT
WHAT CAN THIS BE?
CLINK
CLINK
SOMETHING TO EAT? OR NOT?
THIS HULA HOOP SPINS REALLY WELL!
FOR A MOMENT, YOYO IMAGINED.
AHAHAHAHA AHAHAHAHA

TA-DAAA!
AH! AND THERE'S A HUGE, BEAUTIFUL FAKE ON MY OTHER FOOT!!
WAAA!
WHILE I WAS SLEEPING, MY TOE RING TURNED REAL!
I CAN'T WAIT TO GET HER REACTION.
GUELL'S SURPRISE PALED A BIT.
COMPARED TO THE FINESSE OF AN ORIGAMI MASTER WITH THE SAME INTENTION AS HIS...

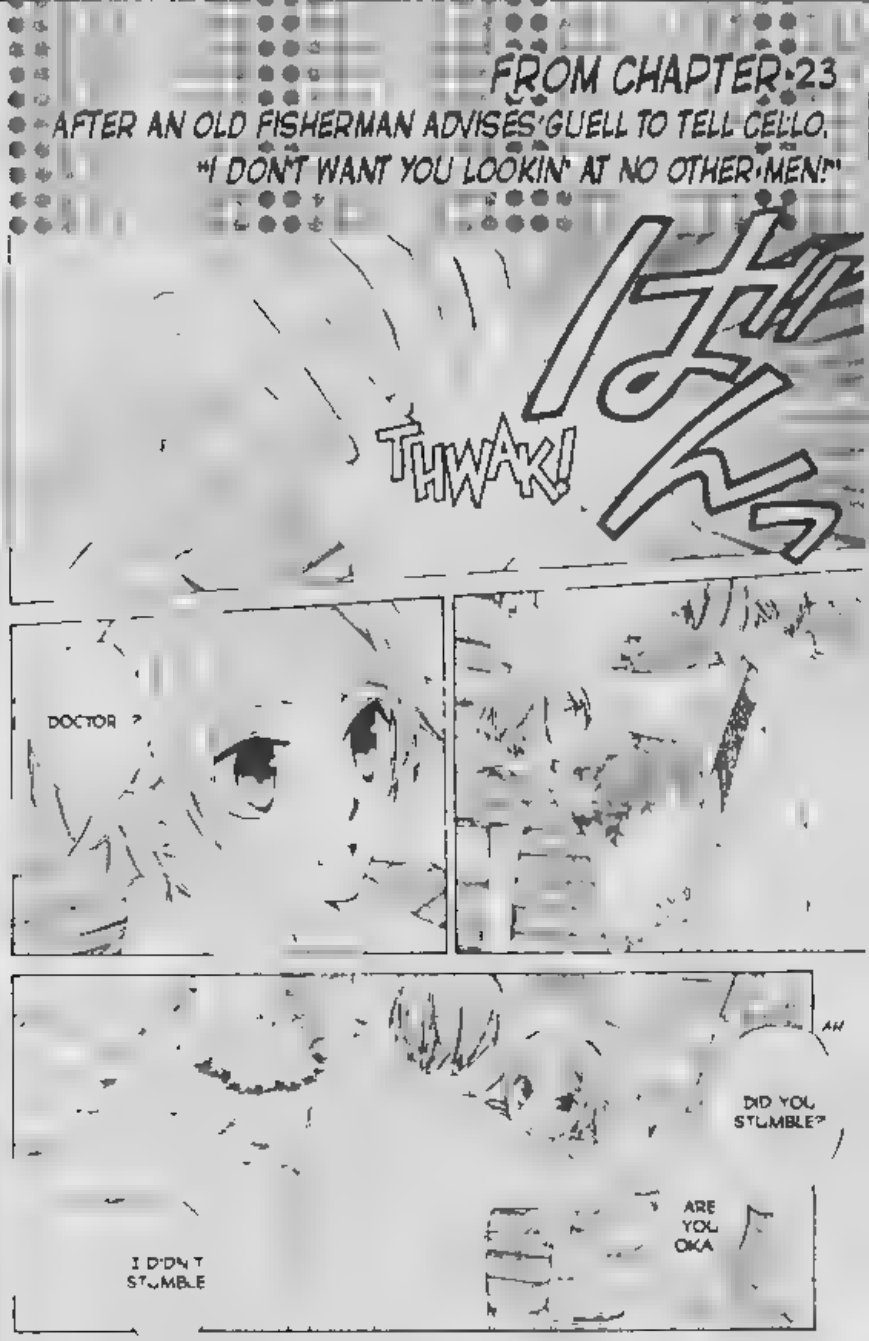
TALE OF A TOE RING: THE END

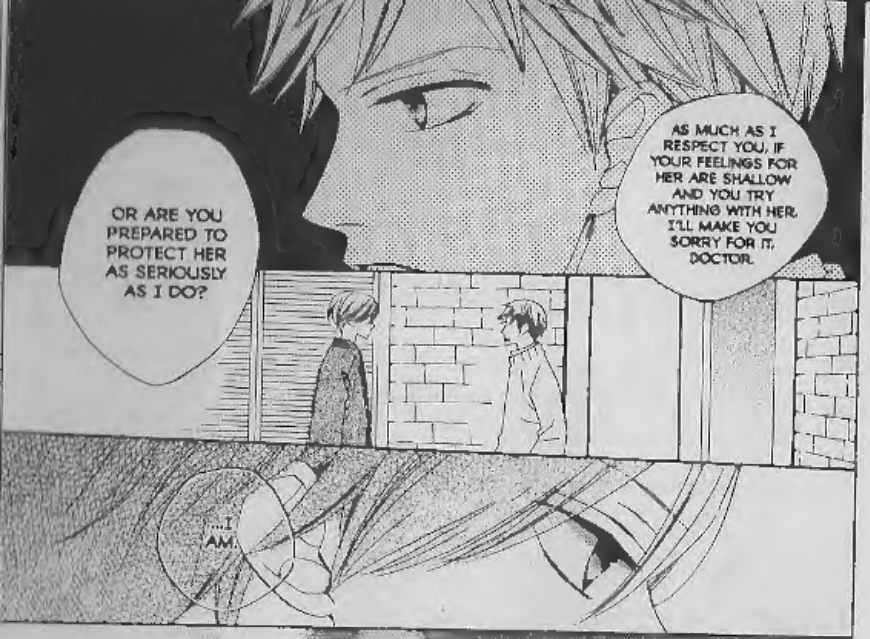

A COLLECTION OF EPISODES AND DEVELOPMENTS THAT WEREN'T CHOSEN DUE TO PAGE LIMITATIONS OR AUTHORIAL CAPRICE.
PALETTE OF 12 SECRET COLORS
DIRECTOR'S CUT
SO AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, I INTENDED DR. GUELL TO BEAR IN MIND HIS POSITION.
YOU'RE TO HAVE A PROPER RELATIONSHIP!
SILLY. YES, BUT "PALETTE" IS A LOVE STORY BETWEEN A TEACHER (WELL, OKAY, DOCTOR) AND A STUDENT...
SUCH SUCH MORE
BUT IN TERMS OF GIRLS' COMICS...
THAT AND...
I THINK MAYBE I SHOULD'VE GONE FURTHER WITH THAT ONE SCENE.
THWAK!
TOSS
NAH.
NAH, THIS ISN'T NECESSARY.
I DREW A SCENE THAT MAKES THEO-KUN LOOK COOL..
...BUT QUICKLY DECIDED I DIDN'T NEED IT.
CHECK 'EM OUT
FLAP

IT'S ALMOST ANOTHER PERSON COMPLETELY
BUT IN FACT THAT MAKES IT ANOTHER MANGA

FROM CHAPTER 23

AFTER AN OLD FISHERMAN ADVISES GUELL TO TELL CELLO,
"I DON'T WANT YOU LOOKIN' AT NO OTHER MEN!"

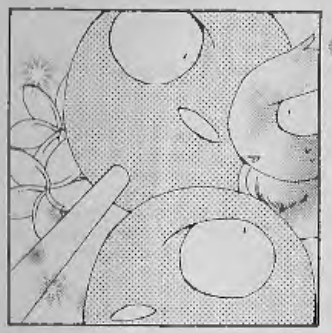



AS MUCH AS I RESPECT YOU, IF YOUR FEELINGS FOR HER ARE SHALLOW AND YOU TRY ANYTHING WITH HER, I'LL MAKE YOU SORRY FOR IT, DOCTOR.
OR ARE YOU PREPARED TO PROTECT HER AS SERIOUSLY AS I DO?
...I AM.

I DECIDED LONG AGO THAT THE PERSON WHO TAKES GOOD CARE OF CELLO IS SOMEONE THAT I'M GONNA TAKE GOOD CARE OF, TOO.
THEN YOU HAVE MY BLESSING.
FROM NOW ON, I'M YOUR SHIELD, DOCTOR.
THEO...
LIKE THAT...
PALETTE OF 12 SECRET COLORS DIRECTOR'S CUT: THE END
HUGGLE

FROM THE FINAL CHAPTER ("COOL THEO" SCENE)

NO.
DATE 2008



EPISODE 26

IT WAS FUN COMING UP WITH THE EXAMPLES OF COLOR USED DURING THE TEST. I GOT MAIL FROM SOME READERS WHO WANTED TO SEE THE SCENES OF CELLO USING HER POWER HERE IN FULL COLOR, BUT I THINK IT LOOKS MOST BEAUTIFUL WHEN YOU IMAGINE IT WITH YOUR MIND'S EYE!

THE FINAL EPISODE

WHILE DR. GUELL IS ON HIS EXPEDITIONS, HE WRITES CELLO A LETTER ONCE A WEEK. THE PEOPLE AROUND HIM CALL THEM "THE WEEKLY GUELL REPORT". STILL, DESPITE FULFILLING HIS PROMISE TO BE DILIGENT ABOUT CORRESPONDING, THE DOCTOR OFTEN WRITES ON STATIONERY THAT HAS FEW LINES OR SENDS PICTURE POSTCARDS. IN SHORT, HE'S NOT ONE FOR WRITING LONG MISSIVES.

CELLO HAS BECOME A THIRD-YEAR STUDENT BY THIS CHAPTER, SO I STRUGGLED OVER WHETHER I SHOULD HAVE HER UNDERGO SOME TANGIBLE PHYSICAL CHANGE, BUT IN THE END, I DECIDED IT MIGHT BE HARD TO RECOGNIZE HER AT FIRST IF I DID THAT, SO I NIXED IT. AS MUCH AS I WANTED TO DRAW SCENES OF THE DOCTOR BEING STUNNED EVERY TIME HE SAW CELLO BECOMING MORE AND MORE OF A WOMAN, I COULDN'T PICTURE THAT CLOSE-TO-WOMANHOOD CELLO AS ANYTHING OTHER THAN FODDER FOR THOSE GAGS. IT WOULD'VE BEEN EASIER FOR ME TO DRAW CELLO STUNNED EVERY TIME SHE MET THE DOCTOR, NOTICING SIGNS OF HIM APPROACHING MIDDLE AGE.

EVERYONE IN THE DOCTOR'S HOME COUNTRY WEARS WARM, FLUFFY CLOTHING, SO IT TOOK ME A LONG TIME TO DRAW ALL THOSE CLOTHES. BUT THAT'S AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE STORY.

KUSAKAWA NOTES: THE END

NO.
DATE 2008

KUSAKAWA NOTES

EPISODE 23

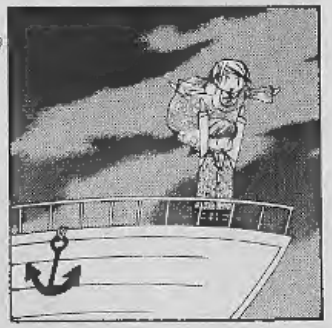
ORIGINALLY, I PLANNED TO HAVE THIS CHARACTER NAMED "JIAN", BUT SOMEHOW, BETWEEN CONCENTRATING ON THE MASK AND THE MONSTER BIT AND EXPLAINING HIS BACKGROUND, HIS NAME CHANGED TO THE LESS-OF-A-MOUTHFUL "JEAN".

EPISODE 24

MR. RITZ HAS A SOUR LOOK ON HIS FACE WHEN HE LOOKS AT CELLO'S ANSWER SHEET, BUT MY EDITOR LOOKS THAT WAY TOO WHEN HE SEES BREAKDOWNS THAT DON'T LOOK GOOD, SO I COULDN'T STOP SHAKING WHEN I DREW THAT PANEL. I'VE BEEN WITH MY EDITOR FOR EIGHT YEARS NOW AND HE'S BEEN INVALUABLE TO ME, SO I APOLOGIZE FOR DOING A LOOK-ALIKE DRAWING THAT LOOKS LIKE THAT.

EPISODE 25

IT WAS HARD FOR ME TO IMAGINE CELLO AND DR. GUELL FACING EACH OTHER SERIOUSLY, SO AFTER I FINISHED THIS EPISODE, TO BE HONEST, IT SEEMED ODD TO ME FOR THE TWO OF THEM TO ACTUALLY BE ROMANTICALLY LINKED IN THEIR OWN WAY. BUT EVEN IF THEIR ROMANTIC SCENES LACK LAUGHS, I'M HAPPY THEIR ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP FINALLY MATERIALIZED.



I WANT TO THANK:
FIRST OF ALL, MY EDITOR (I'M SORRY FOR REPEATING "I'M SORRY" IN ABOUT 80% OF OUR CONVERSATIONS)
THE PUBLISHING COMPANY AND THE STORES FOR STOCKING THIS.
KAORU SASHI-SAMA, BAKU YUMITSUKI-SAMA, SORATA AKIZUKI-SAMA AND CHIAKI KARASAWA-SAMA.
THANKS TO ALL OF YOU, "PALETTE" HAS SOMEHOW REACHED ITS END.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR READING THIS FAR.
I THINK THE PEOPLE OF OPAL WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD FUN LIVES, IN THEIR OWN FASHION.
TAKE CARE, EVERYONE!

NOVEMBER 2008
NARI KUSAKAWA

I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO ANSWER YOUR LETTERS, BUT ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SHARE THEIR OPINION, PLEASE WRITE TO THIS ADDRESS:

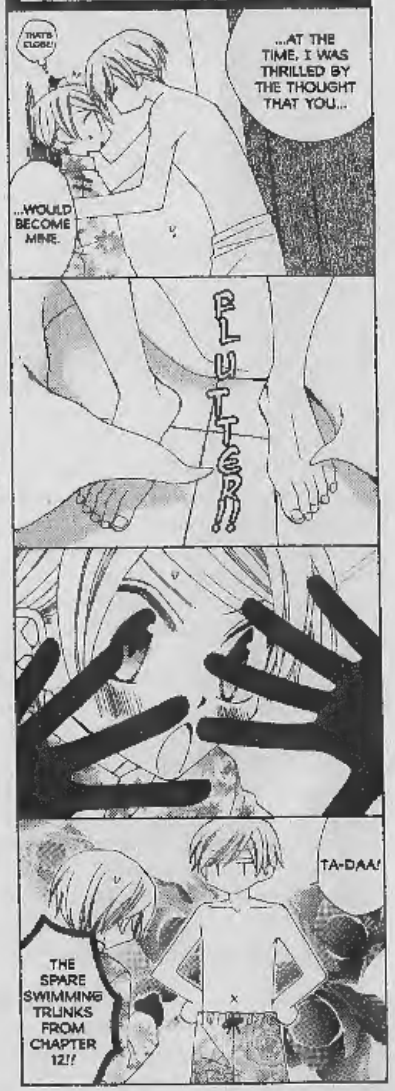
NARI KUSAKAWA
C/O CMX
888 PROSPECT STREET
SUITE 240
LA JOLLA
CA 92037

MY WEBSITE, WITH ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT MY WORK, ETC. HAS CHANGED FROM THE "LOTUS POSITION" ADDRESS TO:
HTTP://KUSAKAWANARI.COM
(CURRENT AS OF JULY 2009)

SELF-COSPLAY COMICS COMMERCIAL

PARALLEL PARALLEL

PALETTE OF 12 SECRET COLORS << >>TWO FLOWERS FOR THE DRAGON VOL. 5


THAT'S CLOSE!!
...AT THE TIME, I WAS THRILLED BY THE THOUGHT THAT YOU...
...WOULD BECOME MINE.
FLUTTER!!
TA-DAA!
THE SPARE SWIMMING TRUNKS FROM CHAPTER 12!!

Say good-bye to the island of Opal!

In this series conclusion, Cello finds herself torn tween her studies and her eart. She's just found out t Dr. Guell may be leaving Opal for good, although he hasn't told her himself! Having recently admitted their true feelings for each other, she thought they'd always be together. With her goal of becoming a Color Palette so close, will it now slip away because of a broken heart? Is there any way Dr. Guell can be talked into staying?

Comedy